



# EASTERN STATES GAZETTEER.

---

VOLUME VI-A.—TEXT.



The Central India State Gazetteer Series.

# EASTERN STATES (BUNDELKHAND)

GAZETTEER.  
COMPLIMENTARY

VOLUME VI-A.—TEXT.

COMPILED BY

CAPTAIN C. E. LUARD, M. A. (OXON.), I. A.,  
*Superintendent of Gazetteer in Central India.*



LUCKNOW:

PRINTED AT THE NEW CL. KISHORE PRESS.

1907.

[Price Re. 5-5 or 4/-]



## PREFACE.

---

THIS Volume comprises the most important States of Bundelkhand, *i.e.*, Orchhā, Datīā, Samthar, Pannā, Charkhārī, Ajigarh, Bijāwar and Chhatarpur. This is the first attempt at a Gazetteer and allowances should, therefore, be made, the Gazetteer Officers having no previous experience or earlier work which they could use as a model, and it was thus a work of creation and not of revision simply. The accounts might be made much fuller and this will, I trust, be done when they are revised. The interest of the accounts necessarily varies with each State, that of Orchhā, the parent of many of the others, being the most important.

For the historical sections I am principally responsible, for all references given wholly so. Statistics were very difficult to obtain in most States as the administrative machinery is not very complete and is generally very old fashioned. Except in the case of Pannā State the soil classification, etc., is that used locally and followed by cultivators and not the simpler and more scientific system introduced when a regular settlement has been made for the State by a British Officer. It has not been always possible to give the latest figures. The statistics given, moreover, were collected only with the greatest difficulty in many cases and had usually to be specially compiled from village records, a tedious process.

I trust that the stimulus which has been given to historical research in State documents will be continued and that the references given which are as full as I could make them will be followed up when possible by a reference to the originals. Elliot's History of India as a rule translates only passages which deal with events and incidents of general importance. The passages omitted are often just those which give lists of Hindu chiefs, the commands they held in the army, and the part they took in battles ; these will be found in the vernacular.

Spelling has been made as accurate as possible where no special type was available.

In conclusion, I have only to acknowledge my indebtedness to the several Gazetteer Officers; Orchhā, Pandit Shri Rām

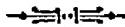
Nait; Datiā, Lāla Chhote Lāl ; Samthar, Munshi Muhammad Husain ; Pannā, Munshi Shambhu Dayāl ; Charkhārī, Rai Sāhib Kāshī Prasūd ; Ajaigarh, Bakshi Thākur Prasūd ; Bījūwar, Mr. Abid Husain, B. A.; and Chhatarpur, Lāla Sohan Lāl. All have done their best. To the Diwāns of the several States I would also prefer my thanks. The Chiefs have all taken an interest in the work and have most materially assisted me by their support in the undertaking. To the Headquarter Office under Pandit Shridhar Rao Vināyak all credit is due for the work of checking and retyping articles.

Finally, I must thank the Political Agents in Bundelkhand Major F. G. Beville, I. A., and Mr. W. E. Jardine, I. C. S., who have held charge during the work for their assistance and would also apologize for my numerous and often, I fear, troublesome inquiries.

CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY : }  
Indore, the 10th April 1907. }

C. E. LUARD, CAPTAIN,  
*Superintendent of Gazetteer  
in Central India.*

## CONTENTS.



## ORCHHA STATE.

Title page.

~~the~~ page  
**Coat of Arms,**

**Genealogical Trees.**

## CHAPTER I. DESCRIPTIVE.

SECTION	I.—Physical Aspects	...	...	...	PAGE.
SECTION	II.—History	...	...	...	4-37
SECTION	III.—Population	...	...	...	37-40

## CHAPTER II.

## ECONOMIC.

<b>SECTION I.</b>	<b>Agriculture</b>	...	...	...	<b>41-46</b>
<b>SECTION II.</b>	<b>Wages and Prices</b>	...	...	...	<b>47</b>
<b>SECTION III.</b>	<b>Forests</b>	...	...	...	<b>48-50</b>
<b>SECTION IV.</b>	<b>Mines and Minerals</b>	...	...	...	<b>50</b>
<b>SECTION V.</b>	<b>Arts and Manufactures</b>	...	...	...	<b>50-51</b>
<b>SECTION VI.</b>	<b>Commerce and Trade</b>	...	...	...	<b>51-54</b>
<b>SECTION VII.</b>	<b>Means of Communication</b>	...	...	...	<b>54</b>
<b>SECTION VIII.</b>	<b>Famine</b>	...	...	...	<b>54-55</b>

### CHAPTER III.

## ADMINISTRATIVE.

<b>SECTION I.</b>	<b>Administration</b>	...	...	...	<b>56-57</b>
<b>SECTION II.</b>	<b>Law and Justice</b>	...	...	...	<b>57-58</b>
<b>SECTION III.</b>	<b>Finance</b>	...	...	...	<b>58-59</b>
<b>SECTION IV.</b>	<b>Land Revenue</b>	...	...	...	<b>59-60</b>
<b>SECTION V.</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Revenue</b>	...	...	...	<b>60-61</b>
<b>SECTION VI.</b>	<b>Local and Municipal</b>	...	...	...	<b>61</b>
<b>SECTION VII.</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	...	...	...	<b>ib.</b>
<b>SECTION VIII.</b>	<b>Army</b>	...	...	...	<b>61-63</b>
<b>SECTION IX.</b>	<b>Police and Jails</b>	...	...	...	<b>63</b>
<b>SECTION X.</b>	<b>Education</b>	...	...	...	<b>63-64</b>
<b>SECTION XI.</b>	<b>Medical</b>	...	...	...	<b>64</b>
<b>SECTION XII.</b>	<b>Surveys</b>	...	...	...	<b>64</b>

CHAPTER IV.

Administrative Divisions and Gazetteer ... ... 65-86

## APPENDICES.

Appendix A.—Treaty      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...      87-89

#### B.—Cronological Table of the Chandella Rulers of Jajhoti, 90-91

" B.—Grenier  
Men of Orchha State.

# DATIA STATE.

Title page.  
 Coat of Arms.  
 Genealogical Tree.

## CHAPTER I.

### DESCRIPTIVE.

			PAGE.
SECTION	I.—Physical Aspects	...	93-94
SECTION	II.—History	...	94-105
SECTION	III.—Population	...	106-109

## CHAPTER II.

### ECONOMIC.

SECTION	I.—Agriculture	...	110-113
SECTION	II.—Wages and Prices	...	113
SECTION	III.—Forests	...	113-115
SECTION	IV.—Mines and Minerals	...	115
SECTION	V.—Arts and Manufactures	...	ib.
SECTION	VI.—Commerce and Trade	...	115-116
SECTION	VII.—Means of Communication	...	116-117
SECTION	VIII.—Famine	...	117

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

SECTION	I.—Administration	...	118
SECTION	II.—Law and Justice	...	118-119
SECTION	III.—Finance	...	119-120
SECTION	IV.—Land Revenue	...	120
SECTION	V.—Miscellaneous Revenue	...	120-121
SECTION	VI.—Public Works	...	121
SECTION	VII.—Army	...	121-122
SECTION	VIII.—Police and Jails	...	122
SECTION	IX.—Education	...	ib.
SECTION	X.—Medical	...	ib.

## CHAPTER IV.

Administrative Divisions and Gazetteer	...	123-130
--	-----	---------

### APPENDICES.

Appendix A.—Treaty	...	131-133
--------------------	-----	---------

## SAMTHAR STATE.

Title page.

Coat of Arms.

Genealogical Tree.

### CHAPTER I. DESCRIPTIVE.

			PAGE.
SECTION	I.—Physical Aspects	...	... 135-136
SECTION	II.—History	...	... 136-133
SECTION	III.—Population	...	... 138-139

### CHAPTER II. ECONOMIC.

SECTION	I.—Agriculture	...	... 140-142
SECTION	II.—Wages and Prices	...	... 143
SECTION	III.—Forests	...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	IV.—Mines and Minerals	...	... 143-144
SECTION	V.—Arts and Manufactures	...	... 144
SECTION	VI.—Commerce and Trade	...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	VII.—Means of Communication	...	... 144-145
SECTION	VIII.—Famine	...	... 145

### CHAPTER III. ADMINISTRATIVE.

SECTION	I.—Administration	...	... 146
SECTION	II.—Law and Justice	...	... 146-147
SECTION	III.—Finance	...	... 147
SECTION	IV.—Land Revenue	...	... 147-148
SECTION	V.—Miscellaneous Revenue	...	... 148
SECTION	VI.—Public Works	...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	VII.—Army	...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	VIII.—Police and Jails	...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	IX.—Education	...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	X.—Medical	...	... 149

### CHAPTER IV.

Administrative Divisions and Gazetteer	...	... 150-153
<b>APPENDICES.</b>		
Appendix A.—Treaty	...	... 155-158
"      B.—The Gürjaras or Gūjars...	...	... 158-161
Map (DATIA and SAMTHAR States).		

# PANNA STATE.

Title page.

Coat of Arms.

Genealogical Tree.

## CHAPTER I.

### DESCRIPTIVE.

		Page.
SECTION	I.—Physical Aspects ...	... 163-167
SECTION	II.—History ...	... 169-178
SECTION	III.—Population ...	... 178-179

## CHAPTER II.

### ECONOMIC.

SECTION	I.—Agriculture ...	... 180-183
SECTION	II.—Wages and Prices ...	... 183-184
SECTION	III.—Forests ...	... 184-185
SECTION	IV.—Mines and Minerals ...	... 185-187
SECTION	V.—Arts and Manufactures ...	... 187
SECTION	VI.—Commerce and Trade ...	... 187-188
SECTION	VII.—Means of Communication ...	... 188
SECTION	VIII.—Famine ...	... <i>ib.</i>

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

SECTION	I.—Administration ...	... 189-190
SECTION	II.—Legislation and Justice ...	... 190
SECTION	III.—Finance ...	... 190-191
SECTION	IV.—Land Revenue ...	... 191-192
SECTION	V.—Miscellaneous Revenue ...	... 192
SECTION	VI.—Public Works ...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	VII.—Army ...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	VIII.—Police and Jails ...	... 193
SECTION	IX.—Education ...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	X.—Medical ...	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	XI.—Surveys ...	... <i>ib.</i>

## CHAPTER IV.

Administrative Divisions and Gazetteer	... 194-201
--	-------------

## APPENDICES.

Appendix A.—States held by Descendants of Maharaja Chhatrasal	203
" B.—Sannads of 1807 and 1811	207-205

## CONTENTS.

# CHARKHARI STATE.

Title page.

Coat of Arms.

Genealogical Tree.

## CHAPTER I. DESCRIPTIVE:

		PAGE,
SECTION I.—Physical Aspects	...	207-208
SECTION II.—History	...	209-211
SECTION III.—Population	...	211-213

## CHAPTER II. ECONOMIC.

SECTION I.—Agriculture	...	214-217
SECTION II.—Wages and Prices	...	218
SECTION III.—Forests	...	219
SECTION IV.—Mines and Minerals	...	220
SECTION V.—Arts and Manufactures	...	ib.
SECTION VI.—Commerce and Trade	...	220-223
SECTION VII.—Means of Communication	...	223-224
SECTION VIII.—Famine	...	224

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

SECTION I.—Administration	...	225-226
SECTION II.—Law and Justice	...	226-227
SECTION III.—Finance	...	227-228
SECTION IV.—Land Revenue	...	228-230
SECTION V.—Miscellaneous Revenue	...	230-231
SECTION VI.—Public Works	...	231
SECTION VII.—Army	...	ib.
SECTION VIII.—Police and Jails	...	231-232
SECTION IX.—Education	...	232
SECTION X.—Medical	...	232-233
SECTION XI.—Surveys.	...	233

## CHAPTER IV.

Administrative Divisions and Gazetteer.	...	234-240
---	-----	---------

### APPENDICES.

Appendix A.—Sands of 1804 and 1811	...	241-243
------------------------------------	-----	---------

# AJAIGARH STATE.

Title page.

Coat of Arms.

Genealogical Tree.

## CHAPTER I. DESCRIPTIVE.

			PAGE.
SECTION	I.—Physical Aspects	...	246-247
SECTION	II.—History	...	247-250
SECTION	III.—Population	...	250

## CHAPTER II.

### ECONOMIC.

SECTION	I.—Agriculture	...	251-254
SECTION	II.—Wages and Prices	...	254
SECTION	III.—Forests	...	254-255
SECTION	IV.—Mines and Minerals	...	255-256
SECTION	V.—Arts and Manufactures	...	256
SECTION	VI.—Commerce and Trade	...	ib.
SECTION	VII.—Means of Communication	...	256-257
SECTION	VIII.—Famine	...	257

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

SECTION	I.—Administration	...	258
SECTION	II.—Law and Justice	...	258-259
SECTION	III.—Finance	...	259
SECTION	IV.—Land Revenue	...	259-260
SECTION	V.—Miscellaneous Revenue	...	260
SECTION	VI.—Public Works	...	261
SECTION	VII. } Army and Police and Jails	...	ib.
SECTION	VIII. } Education and Medical	...	ib.

## CHAPTER IV.

Administrative Divisions and Gazetteer	...	262-269
--	-----	---------

### APPENDICES.

Appendix A	...	271-272
------------	-----	---------

# BIJAWAR STATE.

Title page.  
 Coat of Arms.  
 Genealogical Tree.

## CHAPTER I.

### DESCRIPTIVE.

		PAGE.
SECTION	I.—Physical Aspects	... 273-275
SECTION	II.—History	... 275-278
SECTION	III.—Population	... 278-279

## CHAPTER II.

### ECONOMIC.

SECTION	I.—Agriculture	... 280-287
SECTION	II.—Wages and Prices	... 287-288
SECTION	III.—Forests	... 288-291
SECTION	IV.—Mines and Minerals	... 291-292
SECTION	V.—Arts and Manufactures	... 292
SECTION	VI.—Commerce and Trade	... 292-294
SECTION	VII.—Means of Communication	... 294
SECTION	VIII.—Famine	... 294-295

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

SECTION	I.—Administration	... 296
SECTION	II.—Law and Justice	... 297-298
SECTION	III.—Finance	... 298
SECTION	IV.—Land Revenue	... 298-299
SECTION	V.—Miscellaneous Revenue	... 299-300
SECTION	VI.—Public Works	... 300
SECTION	VII.—Army	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	VIII.—Police and Jails	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	IX.—Education	... 301
SECTION	X.—Medical	... <i>ib.</i>
SECTION	XI.—Surveys	... <i>ib.</i>

## CHAPTER IV.

Administrative Divisions and Gazetteer	... 302-306
--	-------------

### APPENDICES.

Appendix A.—Sanad	... 307-308
-------------------	-------------

Title part.

### Cost of Acne

## **Geological Tree**

## CHAPTER I. DESCRIPTIVE.

Section I.—Physical Aspects	...	...	...	PAGE. 309-311
Section II.—History	...	...	...	311-318
Section III.—Population	...	...	...	319-320

## CHAPTER II.

## ECONOMIC.

SECTION I.—Agriculture	...	...	...	321-330
SECTION II.—Wages and Prices	...	...	...	330-331
SECTION III.—Forests	...	...	...	331-336
SECTION IV.—Mines and Minerals	...	...	...	336
SECTION V.—Arts and Manufactures	...	...	...	<i>ib.</i>
SECTION VI.—Commerce and Trade	...	...	...	336-341
SECTION VII.—Means of Communication	...	...	...	341-342
SECTION VIII.—Famine.	...	...	...	342-343

## CHAPTER III.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE.**

SECTION I.—Administration	...	...	...	314-345
SECTION II.—Law and Justice	...	...	...	346-346
SECTION III.—Finance	...	...	...	346-347
SECTION IV.—Land Revenue	...	...	...	347-354
SECTION V.—Miscellaneous Revenue	...	...	...	351
SECTION VI.—Public Works	...	...	...	<i>ib.</i>
SECTION VII.—Army	...	...	...	352
SECTION VIII.—Police and Jails	...	...	...	352-353
SECTION IX.—Education	...	...	...	353-354
SECTION X.—Medical	...	...	...	354-355
SECTION XI.—Surveys	...	...	...	355

## CHAPTER IV.

**Administrative Divisions and Gazetteer** ... ... 356-374  
**APPENDICES.**

**Appendix A** ... ... ... ... ... ... ... **375-377**

Map ( States east of the Dhasan river—PANNA, CHARKHARI,  
AJAIGARH, BIJAWAR and CHHATARPUR ).

<b>INDEX</b>	...	...	...	...	...	i-viii
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	...	...	...	...	...	1-12

## BIBLIOGRAPHY.

The works consulted included many local productions—the *Prithvirāj Raisa* of Chand, in the *Mahoba-khand*, the *Chhatra prakāsh*, a most inaccurate history of the early members of the Bundelā family, and other books. The chief publications in English consulted are given below:—

*Ain-i-Akbari*, *Ain*.—Blochmann and Jarrett, Translation of the *Ain-i-Akbari*.

B. F.—Brigg's *Ferishta* “History of the rise of the Muhammadan power in India,” four volumes, London, 1829.

C. A. S. R.—A. Cunningham, *Archeological Survey Reports*.

E. M. H.—Elliot's Muhammadan Historians. *The History of India as told by its own Historians* by Sir H. M. Elliot, K. C. B., edited by Professor J. Dowson, London, 1877.

E. I.—*Epigraphica Indica*.

I. A.—*The Indian Antiquary*.

J. B. A.—*Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*.

J. B. R. A. S.—*Journal of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*.

J. R. A. S.—*Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, London*.

Rajas.—J. Tod—*Rajasthan* (Calcutta reprint).

R. T.—*Tabakat-i-Nasiri*, translated by Major Rayerty.

S. M.—*Seir-i-Mutaquherin* (Cambray, Calcutta).

*Bernier's Travels* (Constable).

H. Sleeman's *Rambles and Recollections* (Constable).

J. Scott—Ferishta's *History of the Dekhan*.

*The History of the Bundelas*, by Captain W. R. Pogson (1828).

*The Asiatic Annual Register* for 1809.

Other works are given with their full title.





ORCHHA STATE.





supported the Pāndavas in their wanderings and is always worshipped at the *Dasahra*. Maces are an emblem of Viśhnu and of power generally.

**Gotrāchār**—or Genealogical Creed.

**Gotra**—Kāshyapa.

**Veda**—Yajur.

**Shākha**—Javali.

**Prawar**—Vatsa, Ara and Asit.

**Sūtra**—Kātyāyana.

**Gāyatrī**—Sāvitrī.

**Dev**—Sūrya.

**Adya Devī**—Vimala or Vindhya-vāsinī.

**Rishi**—Vasishta.

**Shikha**—Dakshin-avarta.

**Paksha**—Saryu and Garud.

**Agni**—Vanhi.

**Vriksha**—Pippala.

**Sāmpradāya**—Vaishnava.

**Religion**—The present Chief is a Vaishnava Hindu of the Madhya Sāmpradāya.

**Clan**—Kshatriya. The Ārywār Rājputs of the Bundelā (Vindhyclā) clan.

---





## CHAPTER I.

### DESCRIPTIVE.

#### Section I.—Physical Aspects.

Orekhā State is the most important in the Bundelkhand Political Charge of the Central India Agency. It is known both as Orekhā and Tikamgarh, the latter name being that of the chief town. The State lies between  $24^{\circ} 26'$  and  $25^{\circ} 40'$  north latitude, and  $78^{\circ} 26'$  and  $79^{\circ} 26'$  east longitude. It is bounded on the north and west by the Jhansi District of the United Provinces, on the south by the Saugor District of the Central Provinces and the States of Bijāwar and Pannā, and on the east by the States of Charkhārī and Bijāwar and the Garrauli Jāgir.

The Orekhā chief is a Bundelā (*Vindhya*) Kshatriya of the Surya Vansh, and is recognised as the head of the Bundelā clan. All the other Bundelā families are offshoots of the Orekhā house.

In early days the State was very extensive, reaching from the Jumna on the north to the Narbadā on the south, and from the Chambal on the west to the Tons on the east.

Family partitions and depredations by other chiefs have reduced its lands to its present dimensions of 2,080 square miles, about equal to the county of Lancaster (2,030). Large portions of its former territories are now included in British Bundelkhand and in other states.

The name Orekhā or Ondehkhā is traditionally derived from the scoffing remark of a Rājput chief, who on viewing the site selected for the capital town exclaimed *Ondo eike*, "It lies low enough." The name Tikamgarh was given to the State after 1783, when the present capital was founded by Mahārājā Vikramājīt. The name was given in honour of Krishna, one of whose appellations is Ranchhor Tikam. The earlier name of the town was Tehri.

The State lies in the lowlying natural division of Central India within the gneissic area and presents the scenery common to that tract. It consists of a plain covered with low serrated ridges of pinkish-grey granitoidal gneiss traversed by veins of quartz. The land for the most part is rocky and the soil of low fertility, now covered in part with a scanty scrub jungle and low trees, but which appears in early days to have been heavily clothed with forest. Lakes are numerous, many dating back to ancient times. Between the ridges of gneiss lie patches of fertile black soil formed by the detritus from the hills and

Situation  
and  
Boundaries.

Area.

Name.

NATURAL  
DIVISIONS  
AND SCENERY.

by the disintegration of the intrusive dykes of basalt, which strike through the gneiss. The country in its contrasts has a fascination quite its own. The great blocks of hard greyish-pink rock often lie on the very borders of rich green fields which stretch on to the base of some low hill, with the remains of ancient castle upon its summit, and at its feet a picturesque lake enclosed by an ancient dam of large rough hewn stones overshadowed by great trees.

## HILLS.

The State is traversed by a series of parallel ridges averaging 1,400 feet above sea-level, which strike from south-west to north-east. There are no hills of any great importance, though several of the ranges have local names.

## RIVERS.

The principal rivers in the State are the Betwā, the ancient Vetrarati, and the Dhasān (properly Dashān), the ancient Dashārṇa.

## The Betwā.

The Betwā was known to the ancients as the Vetrarati and is described in the Purānas as flowing from the *Pāriyātra* mountains, or western Vindhya. It is also mentioned in the *Meghadūta* of Kālidāsa. On its bank stands the old town of Orekhā with its majestic palace-fort, and the rugged cenotaph of the great Bir Singh Dev. It enters the State 12 miles south of Orekhā town, and flows for about 20 miles, along the north-western border. Its principal tributaries are the Jamani, Bānda, Bargi and Barwa rivers. The Jamani is a large stream which rises in the Saugor District of the Central Provinces, and flows for about 50 miles along the western border, meeting the Betwā near the point at which it first enters the State. The Barwa river rises in the Baroia pahār ( $25^{\circ} 10' N.$ ,  $78^{\circ} 53' E.$ ) whence it appears to derive its name, and flows into the Barwa Sāgar lake in the Jhānsi District of the United Provinces.

## The Dhasān.

The Dhasān (more correctly Dashān) enters the State five miles south of Datāni village ( $24^{\circ} 26' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 2' E.$ ). This river was known in early days as the *Dashārṇa*, a name said to be derived from *dasha* (ten) and *rīna* (forts). The country lying between it and the Betwā was called *Dashārṇa-desh*. It was probably the Dasāron river of Ptolemy (150 A. D.). It flows for about 70 miles along the southern and eastern border of the State. Entering on the west and flowing eastwards, the stream turns north at Mahauli village ( $24^{\circ} 36' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 16' E.$ ) finally entering the Betwā. Its tributaries are the Ur river, which rises near Jatāua village in the Tikamgarh *tākṣil*, and the Saprār. Other affluents of less importance are the Rauni, Simūmia and Umra.

## LAKES.

Lakes are numerous, several being of considerable size, such as those at Baldeogarh, Lādhaura, Jatāra and Bir Sāgar. It is noticeable that none of the old tanks with their massive dams, built by the Chandelas and others, were originally

intended for irrigation purposes. They were evidently constructed merely as adjuncts to temples, palaces and favourite resorts of the rulers of those days, their adaptation for irrigating the country being invariably a modern development.

The chief lakes are those of Arjār situated near Arjār village ( $25^{\circ} 18' N.$ ,  $78^{\circ} 53' E.$ ) ; Bir Sāgar, an extensive lake situated near Bir Sāgar village ( $25^{\circ} 12' N.$ ,  $78^{\circ} 45' E.$ ), which was constructed by Mahārājā Bir Singh Dev ; the Yadnya Sāgar, situated at Vindapura ( $25^{\circ} 13' N.$ ,  $78^{\circ} 48' E.$ ), near which local tradition has it that Mahārājā Janmejaya performed his great sacrifice; Jeron-talāo, situated at Jeron village ( $25^{\circ} 7' N.$ ,  $78^{\circ} 44' E.$ ) ; Nandanwāra Sāgar, north of Ratangaon village ( $25^{\circ} 2' N.$ ,  $78^{\circ} 52' E.$ ) ; Lidhaura-tal at the village of the same name ( $25^{\circ} 5' N.$ ,  $78^{\circ} 55' E.$ ) ; Baldeogarh-talāo at Baldeogarh ( $24^{\circ} 46' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 7' E.$ ) ; and its neighbour the Madan Sāgar at Jalāra ( $25^{\circ} 1' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 6' E.$ ), which is said to have been constructed by Madanavarmana (1129-67) of the Chandel dynasty.

The State lies wholly in the type area of the Bundelkhand Gneiss, a hard greyish-pink granitoidal rock, of simple composition traversed by conspicuous quartz reefs, which constitute an integral part of this formation and almost invariably strike in a north-easterly direction. A number of basaltic dykes strike approximately north-west, at right angles to these reefs. These dykes are probably disintegrated representatives of the volcanic rocks of the Bijāwar series. The narrow gaps by which minor streams escape across these reefs give unusual facility for the formation of lakes with comparatively little trouble and many of the large artificial lakes so common in the State are formed in this way.

The hill forest that covers a considerable proportion of the State consists largely of brushwood interspersed with small trees. The leading trees belonging to the genera *Bombax*, *Stereulia*, *Boscellia*, *Buchinania*, *Butea*, *Diospyros*, *Acacia*, *Anogeissus* and *Terminalia*, the shrubs to the genera *Grewia*, *Zizyphus*, *Woodsfordia*, *Cascaria*, *Phyllanthus* and *Capparis*. Among the herbaceous species characteristic are plants belonging to the genera *Crotalaria*, *Desmodium*, *Alysicarpus*, *Heliotropium*, *Erolulus* with a considerable number of grasses.

The country affords no cover for large animals and tigers are scarcely ever met with. Leopards are encountered in the hills, while of deer the black buck (*Antilope cervicapra*) and chinkāra (*Gazella bennii*) are common. The birds, migratory and of other classes, are similar to those in other parts of peninsular India. Fish abound in the Dhasān and Betwā.

GEOLOGY. I.

BOTANY. 2.

FAUNA.

1. By Mr. E. Vreidenbach, Geological Survey of India.  
2. By Lt.-Col. D. Prati, I. M. S., Botanical Survey of India.

Climatic  
(Table I.).

The climate of Orchhā is said not to be particularly healthy, especially that of the north-western section where the inhabitants suffer severely from malaria throughout the year.

The area occupied by the State is subject to greater extremes of heat and cold than are experienced in western Central India, and the padded jacket or *mirzai* is a necessary garment in winter. Those who cannot afford a *mirzai* sleep on grass or husk heaps. The husks of *kodon* (*Paspalum stoloniferum*) have a great power of warming the body. The greatest cold is experienced from January to the middle of February. In May the hot winds locally called the *lapat* (literally, a blow) are very trying. The copious consumption of green mangoes is considered a prophylactic against its evil effects !

Rainfall  
(Table II.).

The average annual rainfall at the chief town is 45 inches; a maximum fall of 72.65 inches occurring in 1891, and a minimum of 25.18 in 1899.

#### Section II.—History. (Genealogical Trees.)

Pre-Chandel-  
la and  
Chandella  
periods,  
700 B. C. to  
830 A. D.

*Introductory.*—As the history of the Orchhā State is, at any rate until the founding of Pannū in the middle of the 17th century, practically that of Bundelkhand, it will not be out of place to take a brief survey of the history of this region before the rise of the Bundelā clan.<sup>1</sup>

From the early Buddhist books it would appear that in the time of Gautama Buddha India was held by sixteen great powers, of whom the Pāñchālas of Kanauj ruled the country from Gwalior eastwards as far as the Ken river, the Vatsas of Kausambi, the land to their east, with the Cetis or Chedis, at this time only a subordinate State, lying to their east again. The rulers of the kingdom of Māgadha had already possession of the country to as far west as the Son river. A general suzerainty seems to have been exercised over all these kingdoms except that of Māgadha, by the Kosalas of Savatthi<sup>2</sup> (Sravasti), the struggle between these two kingdoms, which was the great political event of Buddha's day, ending in the complete supremacy of Māgadha.<sup>3</sup>

Mauryas,  
319 A. D.

We get a mere glimpse of the condition of affairs in the days of the Maurya dynasty of Māgadha, which in the fourth century B. C., rose to absolute sovereignty under Chandragupta, and his grandson Asoka, and held beneath its sway all the country from the Himālayas to Mysore.

On the decline of the Maurya dynasty the empire broke up into a number of petty principalities, and we have but little

1. General reference, Vincent Smith, J. A. B., L. 1.

2. Now identified with Sābet Mahet in the Gonda District of the United Provinces.

3. Rhys David's *Buddhist India*. (Stories of the Nations.)

information of the condition of affairs from this time on until the 7th century.

During the third and fourth centuries the Haihaya, Kalachuri or Chedi clan exercised sovereignty over a part of eastern Bundelkhand. This clan had originally settled at Maheshwar on the Narbadā, apparently becoming a tribe of some importance in A.D. 219, the initial year of the Kalachuri era. They ultimately secured the fort of Kālanjar (Kālinjar) always the key to this region. Traditionally one Krishna Chedi disguised as a barber slew the "Evil minded cannibal king of Kālanjar," and from this time the Kalachuris always employed the title *Kālanjaraputravarādhīshvara* or "Lords of Kālanjar, best of cities," a title which they lost in the 9th century, when this fort was taken by the Chandellas.

Kalachuris,  
219 A. D.

Early in the 4th century the Guptas rose to importance, and though their power was temporarily broken by the Hunas, they exercised a general suzerainty, which varied with the strength of the ruler, until the end of the 5th century.<sup>1</sup> The traditions of Bundelkhand point to the chief rule in this tract having passed to the Gaharwārs in about the 5th century, their rule being put an end to by the Parihar Rajputs, who entered from the north-west and making their capital at Mau near Chhatarpur,<sup>2</sup> held all the country from the Betwā to the Son, and the Jumna to Bilhari (now in the Central Provinces) from about 620 to 830 A. D.

Guptas,  
290-400 A.D.

The Parihar states of Alipura and Nāgod (Unchahra) exist to this day.

In the seventh century everything gave way before the great power to which the Kanauj dynasty rose under Harshavardhana, and the Parihars were certainly his feudatories. A glimpse of the country in these days is given us by the Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsiang,<sup>3</sup> who visited the kingdom of *Chi-chi-to* or Jajhoti in A. D. 611. This name for Bundelkhand, which is also met with in Al Biruni,<sup>4</sup> is confirmed by the later inscriptions of the Chandella chiefs. From these we learn that name *Jejakubhukti*, which contracted into Jajhoti, was given to this tract after Jejjuka or Jejashakti, grandson of the founder of this house.<sup>5</sup>

Harshavar-  
dhana of  
Kanauj.

1. J. R. A. S., 1889; 1923.

2. Gangāpuri and Bagwan are also pointed out as their settlements. At the latter place Parmārdideva is said to have fought and defeated the last of the Parihars, then no doubt a local servitor of the Chandellas.

3. Cunningham's *Ancient Geography*, p. 481; Beal's "*Buddhist Records of the Western World*."

4. E. M. H., I, 58.

5. E. J., I, 121, 217.

The extent of the Jajhoti kingdom was almost identical with modern Bundelkhand (using that term not in its present official sense, but according to its popular application among natives) and a portion of Baghelkhand; the tract that is, stretching from Chanderi and Saugor on the west, to Vindhya-vîsinî near Mirzapur on the east, and from the Jumna to Bilhari in the Central Provinces in the south.

Huen Tsiang visited Khajrâho (641 A. D.), then the capital of Jajhoti and describes the temples and the numbers of pilgrims frequenting this spot. Abu Rihân who accompanied Mahmûd of Ghaznî to Kâlanjar (1022 A. D.) also mentions this place which he calls the capital of Jajahanti, while Ibn-Batuta, the geographer, who visited it in 1335 A. D., calls it Kajura or Kajwâra.<sup>1</sup>

Huen Tsiang notes that the country is a fertile one, and is especially famed for its crops of barley and beans, and for its fruit and flowers; its people, he says, for the most part believe in "heretical doctrine, a few honour the law of Buddha..... the king is of the Brâhman class." Jajhotia Brâhmans are still met with chiefly in this region, round Chanderi and Bhilsa, in the districts north-east of Gwalior, and in eastern Bhojâl, which are all parts of Bundelkhand topographically. Though these people have now invented a modern derivation for their name from *Jâj-hota*, there is no doubt that it is in reality only a survival of the old local designation, similar to Kananjiya and Dravîra.

The Parihârs were succeeded by the Chandellas who were at this time only petty chiefs, subject to Kanauj.

On the break-up of that empire at Harshvardhanna's death (648 A. D.) all the petty feudatory chiefs began to increase their dominions, and the Chandellas gradually rose in power during the eighth and ninth centuries under one Naunaka (830 A. D.) and by about the middle of the tenth century had wrested Kâlanjar from the Kalachuris and were firmly settled in the district.

Of the Chandella kings we have numerous records dating from 954 to 1288.<sup>2</sup> They trace their descent from the moon, and the sage Chandratreya, whence their designation of Chandella, and a legend is told to account for their origin, which was undoubtedly invented to gloss over an undesirable mixture of blood. The records give us the names of 20 kings, the founder of the line being always called Nannuka, though legends give him the name of Chandravarman. His grandsons were Jayashakti and Vijayashakti, the former of whom, as we have seen, gave his name to the tract.

Rise of the  
Chandellas,  
830 A. D.

1. Reinard—*Fragments Arabes*, p. 106. Lee—Ibn-Batuta, p. 162.

2. See Chronological Table, Appendix B.

The seventh prince of the line Yashovarman captured the fort of Kālanjar from the Chedi chief Keyuravarsha (*circ.*, 925 A.D.) and thus consolidated the Chandella rule.

This accession of power was marked by the assumption of the title of "Lords of Kālanjar" hitherto borne by the Kalachuri chiefs.<sup>1</sup>

Yashovarman was succeeded by Dhāṅga of whom we have records of 954, 998 and 1002, A.D., the last just after his death.

The increase of Chandella power is shown by the fact that Dhāṅga is said to have ruled from "Bhāswat on the river of Mālwā" (probably Bhīlsa) to the Jumna, and from Gwalior to the Chedi border (in Baghelkhand).

In 988 Sabuktagīn invaded India, and was unsuccessfully opposed by Jaipāl, king of Lahore, at Lamghān. Among the Hindu chiefs on Jaipāl's side was Dhāṅga, called by the Muhammādan historians the "Lord of Kālanjar."

He was succeeded by Ganda or Nanda, as the Muhammādan historians always style him.<sup>2</sup>

This prince assisted Anandpāl of Lahore at the battle of Bhatindāh (Watindah), when that prince was defeated by Mahmūd of Ghaznī in his fifth expedition into India (1009).<sup>3</sup>

Ganda, later on, made an expedition against the king of Kanauj, who was an ally of Mahmūd's, and was consequently attacked by that monarch in 1021 A. D., and again in 1023, and brought to submission. That he was a ruler of considerable power is shown by the large force which he is said to have brought into the field against Mahmūd, which, even allowing for exaggeration, must have amounted to some 50,000 men, and 500 elephants.

The thirteenth king Kīrtivarman (1098-1100) fought with Karna, ruler of Chedi (1042-1122), and defeated him, a fact related by Krishna Datt Mishra in his play the *Prabodha-chandrodaya* which was acted on the occasion of the victory, gained by Kīrtivarman's general Gopāl. It would appear from the introductory verses that Karna had previously defeated the Chandella ruler as it is stated that Gopāl's "Anger was aroused to re-establish the sovereign of the race of the moon who had been dethroned by the lord of Chedi."<sup>4</sup> He was the contemporary of the famous Bhoja of Dhār (1010-55), and Bhīma I of Gujerāt (1022-63).<sup>5</sup>

The seventeenth king, Madanavarman,<sup>6</sup> of whom we have a grant issued from Bhīlsa (1133), drove the Kalachuris out of

1. E. I., I., 122.

2. E. M. H., II., 463, 467. B. F.-I., 63, 66-67.

3. Do. II., 444-67.

4. J. Taylor—*Prabodha-chandrodaya* (London, 1812).

5. E. I. i., 217.

6. His known grants are dated from V. S., 1186 (A. D. 1129) to 1219 (A. D. 1162).

their possessions on both sides of the upper Narbada and had a viceroy ruling at Bilhari (in the Central Provinces), who controlled all the country as far east as the present British Districts of Damoh and Saugor.

The prince of the line, however, who is best remembered is the 20th, Parmārdideva (1167-1213) or Parmāl Dev as he is called locally, of whose time we have records showing that he ruled from about 1167 to 1213.

Orehhā, it should be noted, was at this time held by the Sani Rājputs, and Chand in his *Raisa*, in the *Orekhā Samay* of the *Mahoba-khand* describes the defeat of Hansa Rāj Sani Rājput by Parmārdideva Chandella.

Hansa is described as an able administrator and just ruler whose fame had spread far. Hansa wished to recover some territory which had been wrested from his ancestors by the Chandella chief, Rahilya. Parmārdideva was at this time engaged with other foes, and Hansa considered it a good opportunity to regain the lost districts. All his *sardārs* supported him, but his minister Harischandra endeavoured to dissuade him, and prophesied failure.

Hansa, however, disregarded his advice, and called his nobles together who all swore to support him. He then asked who would lead the army. From this all shrank, save Harischandra, who said he had done what he could to prevent the expedition, but that as it was determined on it was his duty to obey his chief.

A spirited account of the fight is given by Chand. Finally, the Orehhā chief finds the day going against him and collecting his forces exhorts them to a final effort concluding with the words—

*Jahi prān priya laghin so baithे nij dhām,  
Jo kaya far munch wai so charhe sangrūm.*

*Who places foremost love of life, at home now let him stay,  
But he who holds his life as nought, join me in our last fray.*

But the effort failed and Parmārdideva won.

*Bhai jīt Parmāl kī bajjai ghor nishān,  
Sain sahit gark milliyo Mallkhān ballān.*

*So fell the day to Parmāl,  
And the drums rang loud and clear.*

*When mighty Mallkhān seized the fort,  
His army in his rear.*

This event is placed on 15th *Vaisākh Sudī*, V. S. 1235 or 1178 A. D. Parmārdideva ruled from 1167-1213 A. D.

Parmārdideva's fame really rests on the fact of his defeat by Prithvirāj, the Chauhan Emperor of Delhi, this event

having been made celebrated by the bard Chand in his *Prithvī-rāj-Raisa*.<sup>1</sup>

This defeat took place in 1182, and although it did not annihilate Parmārdideva, who was able to offer resistance to Kūtub-ud-dīn in 1193, still it broke the power of the Chandellas who became from this time on only petty chieftains ruling in the eastern districts round Kālanjar and Pannā.<sup>2</sup> Their last known record is of the year 1289. The Chandella chiefs were successively allied with or contesting against their neighbours, such as the Chedis of Tripuri (near Jabalpur), the Rāshtrakātas of the Deccan and Kanauj, and the Paramāras of Mālwā. This is shown by their records which mention many such alliances and contests, while from 1000 A. D. onwards they also came in contact with the Muhammadans.

The Chandellas were great builders and architects as numerous forts, temples and tanks, which are still standing, testify.

The well-known Ath-kot or eight strongholds of Bundelkhand, Kālanjar, Ajaigarh, Khairāgarh, Manyāgarh, Mārpha, Maudha, Maihar and Garha were either wholly or in main part their handiwork. The temples at Khajrāho in Chhatarpur are unrivalled in northern India for their beauty, while their tanks, held up by massive dams, are to be met with in every direction. They also issued coins of which specimens have been found.<sup>3</sup>

What took place from the time of the fall of the Chandella dominion to the rise of the Bundelās in the fourteenth century is not very clear. The destruction of a competent suzerain power left the country at the mercy of various tribes which seem to have held power successively over more or less of the tract. These rulers are said to have been Mewātīs, Gonds, Bhars and Yogīs from Ujjain.

Towards the end of the thirteenth century the Mewātīs no doubt held the country round Mahoba, and some of this tribe still serve in the State army. The Gonds ruled in the south and south-west, and their rule is commemorated in many local songs.

Of the Bhars tradition has much to say, and history very little, but they appear to have held the northern and eastern parts of Bundelkhand, and it is suggested that the Kīratpāl and the mysterious "Dalaki wa Malki" of the Muhammadan historians were Bhar chiefs.<sup>4</sup>

All that can really be said is that a tribe of non-Aryan descent held this part of the country with Karra and Kālanjar as their strongholds. Possibly the Bārwārs, a criminal tribe in

1. J. B. R. A. S., XI, 283.

2. E. M. H., II, 231. B. F., I, 180-197.

3. A. Cunningham, *Coins of Medieval India*.

4. R. T., 682, B. F., I, 237. E. M. H., II, 348.

eastern Vindhya region may be their descendants. They were followed, at any rate in the district round Orchha, by the Khangars, also a tribe of non-Aryan descent, which appears at one time to have been, for political reasons, supported by the Delhi Emperor Alâud-din (1296-1316).

A *sānād* issued by one Kirat Singh-ju at Mahoba, dated in Mâgh, V. S. 1337 or 1280 A. D., was discovered in 1850 by the Superintendent of Jâlaun, while other documents record the visit of this ruler to Mahoba in 1252, and also state that he then granted land for the up-keep of a temple. In one of the records of the Gaur Brâhmans, moreover, in which their 780 branches are enumerated, it is stated that six and-a-half branches, the Mishr of Nethavan, Upâdhyâ of Chandraura, Tivâri of Jiganitha, Tivâri of Bhakuri, Tivâri of Amlokbar, Pânde of Singhoti and half the Dubes, were greatly respected by the Bhar kings of Kâlanjar. The Bhar dominion thus appears to have mainly occupied the present Hamîrpur District.

#### Gaharwârs.

The Bundelâs trace their descent from the Gaharwâr Râjputs of Benâres. The Gaharwârs are invariably connected with the rule of Benâres. Tod places them among the 36 families, while Chand and others do not. At the same time, however, Tod remarks that their descent is not pure, and that the Râjputs of Râjasthân will not intermarry with them.<sup>1</sup> This is not correct as the Gaharwârs to this day give brides to Baghels, Gaurs and Chauhâns, and receive them from Chauhâns, Parihârs and others.<sup>2</sup>

They are also traditionally connected with Râthors. Hoernle makes a mistake in saying that they will not intermarry with this clan, and the connection is more than doubtful there being little or no historical foundation to support the traditional Râthor dynasty of Kanauj at all.<sup>3</sup>

Whatever the actual facts may be there is no doubt that in the twelfth century the Gaharwârs were distinct from the Râthors, as Chand in enumerating the clans fighting at Kanauj names them separately.

The Gaharwârs appear at one time to have held all the country in this region with Benâres and Mahoba as centres. In A. D. 600 they were ousted by the Parihâr Râjputs, and did not regain their ascendancy for 800 years, when their descendants the Bundelâs obtained possession of much the same tract.

#### The Bundelâ.

The Orchha house traces its descent from Hem Karan better known as Pancham, Bundelâ. Hem Karan was the son of the

1. *Iltâs*,—II, 116.

2. Crooke's *Tribe and Castes of the North-Western Provinces*, II, 371. Elliot's *Glossary (Bzâmes)* I, 45; 121.

3. I. A. XIV, 98. J. B. A., IV, 670.

Gaharwār Chief, Rājā Karan Pāl. Before turning to the history of the establishment of the Bundelā rule in the tract which now bears their name, their traditional descent as given in the State records may be dealt with. The Bundelās are Sūrya Vanshī Rājputs, a branch of the great Gaharwār clan, tracing their origin from Manu Vaivasvata, and Ikshvāku through Lava, the elder son of Rāma.<sup>1</sup> From Lava were descended two brothers Gagansen or Gaganaspati and Kanaksen. Kanaksen is said to have founded Vallabhipura in Gujarāt, in V. S. 201 or 144 A. D., while Gagansen went eastwards and founded a kingdom for himself in V. S. 239 or 182 A. D.

Of the descendants of Gagansen nothing is recorded until we reach Kārtrāj, save that one Gangarākha is said to have built a temple at Gaya, Pradyumnarikha to have brought the *Akshai-bar* shrine at Prayāg (Allahābād), and Indradyumnarikha to have erected the temple to Jagannāth at Puri.

Kārtrāj, according to the State records, appears on the scenes in V. S. 731 or 674 A. D. He proceeded to Kāshī or Benāres where he contrived to oust the local chief, Divodās, a Sani Rājput. He then married Vara, the daughter of a local chief called Māgha.<sup>2</sup>

Kārtrāj found the Benāres State in wretched condition. On consulting the astrologers he was told that it was due to the unfavourable attitude of the planets, and was instructed to take measures to propitiate them. From his action in propitiating the planets he was known as *Grahnivār* or the man who warded (*nirār*) off the evil effects of the planets (*graha*), a name afterwards corrupted to Gaharwār.

The Benāres chiefs were known as *Sūrya Vanshī*, *Sūrya-kulāratans*, *Kāshīshvar* or "the banner of the solar race, the lords of Kāshī." Of the twenty successors of Kārtrāj who ruled between V. S. 731 and 1105, or 674 to 1048 A. D., nothing but the names are known.

The names are given as Kārtrāj, Mahīrāj, Murdīrāj, Udayrāj, Garudsen, Samarsen, Anandsen, Karansen, Kumarsen, Mohansen, Rūjaṣen, Kāshīrāj, Shyāmdev, Pralhāddev, Hamīrdev, Asakaran, Abhayakaran, Jaitkaran, Sohanpāl and Karanpāl. Karanpāl or Kandpāl left three sons, Vira, Hem Karan, and Aribrahm or Arivarma.

Though not the eldest son Hem Karan was the favourite of his father, who selected him as his heir, while granting his brothers *jāyērs*. On Karanpāl's death, however, Vira

Hem Karan  
(1048-71).

1. H. H. Wilson—*Vishnu Purāna*, 318.

2. It should be noted that according to an account with the Rao of Orchhā, Anirudh, six generations previous to Kārtrāj, had begun to live at Benāres, he and his successors being subordinate to the Saini Rājputs until their power was subverted by Kārtrāj.

and Arivarma made common cause and expelled Hem Karan from the State.

Reduced to extremities Hem Karan went to Gajūlhar *purohit*, a descendant of the *purohits* who had served the Sani chiefs before Kārtrāj's day. He was by him advised to pay his devotions to Vindhya-vāsin-devī. This he did spending his days in praying and offering human sacrifices. He had made four offerings of a human head, when the goddess appeared and promised him greatness. He then returned to Benāres and told his tale of the *vardān* or boon, thus promised by the goddess. This was treated with scorn by his brothers. At Gajūlhar's suggestion, therefore, he once more visited the goddess, going on this occasion to the spot in the hills most sacred to her. He once more offered her a human head, and she again appeared to him and affirmed her former promise. She also instructed him to call himself *Pancham Vindhya* in remembrance of his five (*pāñch*) offerings at her shrine in the Vindhyas. It is this name of Vindhya which has been corrupted into Bundelā.

Two dates are given by the State records for the granting of the *vardān*, Sunday, *Vaishākh Sudī* 14th, V. S. 1105 or May 1018 A. D., and Thursday, *Sūcīan Sudī* 5th, V. S. 1112 or June 1055 A. D. The first date is said to be that of the original granting of the *vardān* or boon, and this date is still recognised by the Darbār.

Another romantic story, which the Darbār consider a later Brāhmaṇ or Chāraṇ fabrication and do not support, runs that Hem Karan was about to offer himself as a sacrifice to the goddess. He had applied the sword to his throat when a drop of blood fell on the threshold of the shrine. The goddess appeared and promised her support. Hem Karan and his descendants thus acquired their name from *bānd*, a drop.

It may here be noted that the old style of address still used by *Chāraṇs* and *Patīas* to the Mahārājā of Orchhā runs thus:—

*Shrī Sūrya-kulāvatansā Kāshīshicara Panchama  
Grahanirāra Vindhya-khanda-mandalādhīshicara  
Shrī Mahārājādhīrāja Orchhā nāresha.*

Hem Karan appears to have considerably extended the Gaharwār rule. Towards the end of his life he retired from the world to Gaharwārpura (now Gaura in the Mirzāpur District) near his patron goddess and became an ascetic, leaving his possessions to his eldest son, Virabhadra.

As Hem Karan received his boon from the goddess on a Sunday, it is still customary to sound drums throughout this day at the Orchhā capital, while during the *Nara-rātra* festival the Devī *Vindhya-vāsinī* is worshipped with great pomp.



Arjunpāl  
(1215-31).

Abhayabhupati was succeeded by his son Arjunpāl who ruled with Mahoni as his capital. He married three wives. The first was a daughter of Mukutmanī, Chanhān of Shahābād; his second a daughter of Rājā Har Singh, Tonwāra, by whom he had a son, Sohanpāl, and thirdly with a daughter of Ishwara Singh, Dhandera of Virala, who bore him two sons, Virapāl and Dayāpāl.

Virapāl's descendants still live at Beona, Beroda, Kurār and Deogon. What exactly happened on Arjunpāl's death is not quite clear. Sohanpāl succeeded to the rule at Mahoni, and made many additions to his dominions. It appears, however, that Virapāl contrived to get the throne by ousting his elder brother when he had only ruled for a short time, Sohanpāl being allotted a *jāgīr* for his maintenance. It is with Sohanpāl that the fortunes of the Orchhā house are linked.

Sohanpāl  
(1231-59).

Sohanpāl may be considered the first historical member of the Orchhā family. Dissatisfied with his position at home, Sohanpāl left his *jāgīr*, and being a man of strong character soon made a name for himself in the district as a leader and warrior. After wandering for sometime in the surrounding country he came finally to Garh-Kundār, 30 miles north-east of Jhānsi. This place was, as has been already noted, then held by the Khangārs. The Khangārs were a tribe of non-Aryan descent, or possibly in part of mixed Rājput and aboriginal stock. There is little doubt, however, that they were the allodial proprietors of this region. In the Census of 1901 there were 32,988 Khangārs returned in Central India. They are divided into totemistic exogamous groups and show many signs of Dravidian origin.<sup>1</sup>

Parmūrdideva Chandella had, before his defeat by Prithvi Rāj Chauhān, in 1182, granted the fort of Kundār or Kurār to his general, Shiya, a Parmār Rājpūt. Shiya was killed in the fight at Urai in which his master was defeated. The break-up of the Chandella power left the country without a paramount ruler, and its distance from the Chauhān capital of Delhi, made efficient control impracticable. The Gonds during this period extended themselves over the eastern and southern sections, the Khangārs seized the country now forming the Tahrauli *tahsīl*, and the Afghāns established themselves at Jagmānpur (Jālaun District). The Khangārs were led by Khub Singh, Khangār, originally an officer under Shiya, who contrived to make himself independent.

In the time of Sohanpāl, Garh-Kundār was held by the descendants of Khub Singh Khangār. Gradually rising in

1. Census Report, C. I., I, pp. 201 and 227.

power, his successors made strenuous efforts to form marriage connections with the Rājputs of the district. These Rājputs were now in a much weakened state owing to the Muhammadan invasion, and were hard put to it to resist the Khangārs. The advent of Sohanpāl was, therefore, hailed with delight, and all the small Rājput landholders gathered round his standard.

Sohanpāl collected his forces and encamped on the banks of the Betwā. He then sent his son Sahajendra (alias Vir) accompanied by his *purohit* and a Kāyastha, named Dhir Pradhān to interview Hurmat Singh Khangār, the Kurār chief.

Sahajendra was instructed to ask Hurmat Singh to join Sohanpāl in recovering Mahoni from his brother. The Khangārs, however, refused. The services of a banker Vishnudatta, Pānde, were then called into requisition, he having dealings with the Khangār chief. At his solicitation the Khangār chief agreed to assist Sohanpāl, but only on the condition that he formed a matrimonial alliance with him.

Sohanpāl was furious at this condition, and at once called on all the surrounding Rājput families to assist in exterminating this tribe. The Kachhwāhas, Shilinga Chauhāns, and Tonwāras, however, refused all help, though they expressed sympathy with Sohanpāl's object. The Pamārs and Dhanderas (a branch of the Chauhāns), however, agreed to help.

Sohanpāl collected his forces and attacked the Khangārs, defeated them and annexed their country. This event is usually placed in V. S. 1314 or 1257 A. D. Some accounts make a difference of one year.

Sohanpāl had married a daughter of Raghuñāth Singh, Dhander of Bhavāni, by whom he had two sons, Sahajendra and Rām Singh.

We have now arrived at the period at which the Bundelās broke off all marriage connection with the great Rājput clans. As has been seen they had up to this time married with Chauhāns, Tonwāras, Rāthors and others. Henceforth, however, they intermarry only with Bundelkhandi Pamārs and Dhander Chauhāns and no other clans.

The origin of the formation of the Bundelā endogamous group is explained in the State accounts, as being due to the refusal of those clans to join against the Khangārs.

Sohanpāl married his daughter Dharam Kunwari to Punyapāl, the Pamār chief of Panwāya. At this marriage, which took place soon after the Khangār affair, invitations were sent to all the Rājput clans, but none would attend the feast or dine with Sohanpāl, save the Pamārs and Dhanderas.

The Pamārs of Bundelkhand are descended from the Paramāra Agnikula clan of Mount Abu. The story given in the State account of their isolation from other Paramāras is this:

Punyapāl, Pamār of Panwāya, was a nephew of the Tonwāra Rājā of Gwalior. Punyapāl possessed a horse which his uncle coveted. This horse he agreed to exchange for a beautiful dancing girl of his uncle's. On the appointed day he went to his uncle's residence mounted on the horse. As he rode up he saw the dancing girl standing among the people surrounding his uncle. Without waiting to make a salutation even, Punyapāl rode up to the girl, swung her on to his saddle and followed by his people galloped home. For this insult his uncle, it is said, persuaded all the Rājpats to have nothing more to do with Punyapāl's family.

The Dhanderas or Dhandelas are a section of the Hāra Chauhāns who give their name to Dhandekhand, the country lying near Khaniādhāna State.

Sahajendra was an energetic ruler and rapidly extended his dominions, acquiring among other places Chaurāgarh and Kālpī.<sup>1</sup> He ruled 23 years and was succeeded by his nephew, Naunakdev.

Of this reign there is nothing important to relate. Naunakdev married a daughter of Diwān Makund Singh Dhandera of Devapura, by whom he had two sons, Prithi Rāj (Prithi Chand), and Indra Rāj.

Prithi Rāj's days were not filled with any incidents of note. He fought with the Banāphars of Mahoba, dying of wounds received at the time.

His son Rām Singh succeeded and ruled 36 years. His reign was not important. His wife was a daughter of Makund Singh, Dhandera of Harpura. He had two sons, Rāi Chand and Medni Mal.

Rai Chand succeeded and dying without issue, was followed by his brother.

Medni Mal ruled for 43 years. He married a daughter of Rāj Singh of Karhaiya, a Dhandera Rājput, by whom he had a son, Arjunadev. Medni Mal seized Sihonda and Mahoba.

Arjunadev succeeded his father ruling for 31 years. Finally, he retired to a life of asceticism, leaving his State to his son, Makhān Singh. His wife was a daughter of Naval Singh, Pamār of Bareehha.

Makhān Singh, who ruled for 33 years and was the last chief to hold his court at Garh-Kundūr, gives us our first

Sahajendra  
(1259-83).

Naunakdev  
(1283-1307).

Prithi Rāj  
(1307-39).

Rām Singh  
(1339-75).

Rai Chand  
(1375-94).

Medni Mal  
(1394-1437).

Arjunadev  
(1437-68).

Makhān  
Singh  
(1468-1501).

<sup>1</sup>. Chaurāgarh is in the Central Provinces, and Kālpī in the United Provinces.

certain date in Bundelā history. He came into collision with Bahlol Lodi (1451-88). His first wife was a daughter of Diwān Tāra Chand, Dhandera of Shahābād, his second a daughter of the Pamār of Barechha.

Malkhān had six sons. Rudra Pratāp, the eldest, was the founder of Orchhā city, Kharg Singh, Jogājīt, whose descendants still hold Rāwali village, and are known as the Rāwali family, Jait Singh whose family hold Talaitha. Shāhdimān (*alias* Mitra Sen), who obtained the village of Asāti, his descendants who still hold it being called Asātiwāla, and Devī Singh whose descendants hold Nivāri.

*The Bundelās of Orchhā.*—With Rudra Pratāp, the chiefs of Orchhā proper commence. Rudra Pratāp took every advantage of the disturbances caused by the invasion of Bābar to acquire as much territory as he could. A bold and successful leader he managed, although he came into collision with Sikander and Ibrāhim Lodi, to maintain his independence. In 1530 Rudra Pratāp, while out hunting, was struck with the suitableness of the site on which the Orchhā city now stands, and on the 13th *Vaishākh Sudī V. S.* 1588 (May 1531 A. D.) commenced to build a palace there, destining it as the capital in place of Garh-Kundār.

Rudra  
Pratāp  
(1501-31).

He was killed in the same year by a tiger from whose clutches he was rescuing a cow. Though he slew the beast and saved the sacred animal, he died of his injuries.

Rudra Pratāp married two wives, one from the family of Gangādās, Pamār of Karera, and the other from that of Diwān Man Singh, Dhandera of Sahāra, by whom he had nine sons. Bhārtī Chand and Madhukar Shāh, who both in turn succeeded to the rule of the State; Udayāditya (or Rao Udayāditya) who was given Man Mahewa in *jāgīr*, and whose descendant Chhatarsāl founded the Pannā State and the *Danghāi* line of Bundelās; Amāndās who received Pandra; Prāgdās who received Harsapur (in Jhānsi District); Durgādās who got Durgāpur (in Datia State) and from whom the Katerāwāli, Sijaurāwāli and Laronwāli branches are descended; Chandandās of Katera, from whom the Bijaraun, Isaun, Narāta, Dongara and Kalāni families are descended; Ghanshāmdās (*alias* Shāmsundardās) of Megawān; and Bhupati Shāh of Kundra, from whom the Mirachwārewāli, Birauwāli, Garha Kota and Charkhāriwāli families are descended.

Bhārtī Chand who had already been conducting the administration for sometime succeeded on his father's death. Times were troubrous. Bābar was just dead (1530) and the weak Humāyun was entering on his struggle with Sher Shāh. In 1545 Sher Shāh turned his attention towards Bundelkhand and marched through that region to Kālanjar where he lost his life, by

Bhārtī Chand  
(1531-54).

the explosion of a powder wagon. Madhukar Shāh was sent by his brother to intercept Sher Shāh during his march, but the attempt was unsuccessful.

Ahmad Yūdgār says that the attack on Kālanjar was due to the contumacious conduct of one Bir Singh, Bundelā, who when summoned to attend Court had fled to the Rājā of Kālanjar for refuge.<sup>1</sup>

It was at this time, according to State tradition, that the use of the names Vindhya and Vindhya-khand or Bundelā and Bundelkhand first became general.

Bhārtī Chand managed to acquire Jatāra during the confusion which reigned in the days of Sher Shāh's weak successors. This place had been re-named Islāmābād in the days of Islām Shāh Sūr. He is also said to have taken Kālanjar, but this must be incorrect, as Rām Chandra Baghela, obtained it from its Afghān governor in the beginning of Akbar's reign.<sup>2</sup>

In 1539 the Orchhā palaces had been completed and the court finally moved there from Garh-Kundār. Bhārtī Chand died childless in 1551, and was succeeded by Madhukar Shāh, his brother. The Orchhā possessions were at this time considerable, though the chief's hold on them was somewhat precarious. They are always said to have reached from the Sind river to the Tons and the Jumna to the Narbadā, a very rough delineation of the borders.

Madhukar  
Shāh  
(1551-92).

Madhukar Shāh was by nature a religious recluse and unfitted to rule in such troublous days. His Rāni was of much the same temperament. She being warned in a dream, discovered the statue of Rām Chandra (which now stands in the Orchhā palace) in the Sarjū river at Ajodhya.

In the 22nd year of Akbar, A.D. 1577, Madhukar Shāh was apparently guilty of some "overt acts" and Sadiq Khān and Rājā Askaran, Kachhiwāha, were, as the historian naively puts it, sent against him "with a considerable force to induce him by kind words to return to his allegiance, or to compel him if necessary." The chief would not listen to the kind words and an attack was made on Orchhā. At Karera ( $25^{\circ} 28'$ - $78^{\circ} 11'$ ) fort a determined resistance was made by Parmānand Pāmār, but without avail. The "army," says Abul Fazl, "then pursued its march but was greatly impeded by the dense woods. Cutting their way through they reached the Satdhāra (name of the Betwā near Orchhā). The army of the insurgent was arrayed for battle on its banks. Skirmishes went on for a day or two, and the imperial army was at last directed to advance. The enemy were at length defeated and put to flight and their camp was plundered. Horal Deo, the eldest (really second) son

1. E. M. H., IV, 407.

2. E. M. H., V, 333.

of the Rājā, was killed, Rām Shāh, another son, was wounded and fled, and nearly 200 Rājputs were slain.”<sup>1</sup>

In 1588 Rājā Askaran was again sent against Madhukar.<sup>2</sup> All the districts of Orchhā between Gwalior, Sironj and the capital now fell to the Mughals.

Later on, however, Madhukar managed to recover some of them, and in 1591 Prince Murād on his way to take up the Governorship of Mālwā discovering this, at once attacked the Rājā who was defeated and fled to the hills round Narwar, where he died a natural death the next year.<sup>3</sup> A story is always related of Madhukar Shāh’s appearance at the Delhi court. Akbar, in order to try his piety, of which he had heard much, issued an order prohibiting the wearing of a *māla* (rosary) or Hindu sect marks in *darbār*. Madhukar, however, came with both, the latter being painted on even more conspicuously than usual. Akbar was pleased at his courage and the particular mark the Rājā wore on that day is called the *Madhukar Shāhī Tīka* to this day.

Madhukar Shāh died in 1592. He had eight sons. The eldest, Rām Shāh, succeeded him and afterwards became chief of Chanderī; Horal Dev had been killed at Orchhā in 1577. He had received the *jāgīr* of Pichhor (now in Gwalior); Indrajit obtained Kachhoa, where the ruins of his old palace still stand Bir Singh Dev, afterwards the famous Orchhā Chief, held the Baroni jāgīr; Har Singh Dev who held Bhasneh in the Jhānsi District; Pratāp Rao who held Kunch-Pahāria; Ratar Singh who held Gaur-Jhāmar in the Saugor District, and Rāndhir Singh who held Shivpur (now Sipri in Gwalior State). Thus the Orchhā dominions were split up into eight shares, nominally subordinate to the Orchhā chief.

Rām Shāh went to court and represented his case to Akbar, who forgave him and re-instated him in his possessions.<sup>4</sup> He ruled for 13 years. He was a weak chief, quite incapable of restraining his unruly brothers, and things rapidly went from bad to worse until the whole State was plunged into civil war and dissension. There were 22 *jāgīrs* in the State, eight being those of Madhukar’s sons, and 14 held by Kachhwāhas, Pamārs, Gonds and others.

Rām Shah  
(1592-1605).

The most turbulent of all the brothers was Bir Singh Dev, called Nar Singh by most Muhammadan writers. His excesses becoming unbearable, Akbar called on Rām Shāh to bring him to order, which Rām Shāh was quite incapable of doing. Indrajit and Pratāp Rao, assisted by Bir Singh, seized

1. *Akbar-nama*, E. M. H., VI, 57.

2. *Maasir-ul-Umra*—(Pers. Text, 235).

3. *Tabakat-i-Akbari*—E. M. H., V, 400; B. F., I, 261.

4. *Tabakat-i-Akbari*—E. M. H., V, 461.

Bhānder, Pawai near Datiā, Karera, Berekha and Irich, the last from a Muhammadan official.

In 1592 Akbar sent Daulat Khān to arrest Bir Singh, ordering Rām Shāh to assist. He managed to effect this, but Bir Singh soon after escaped and resumed his depredations. At length, however, Bir Singh found that things were getting too hot for him, and taking advantage of the differences between Prince Salim and his father proceeded to ingratiate himself with the latter.

Bir Singh, to win the favour of his protector, undertook to carry out the murder of Abul Fazl, a deed which has left an undying stigma on his reputation.

Prince Salim, who perhaps not without reason, believed that Abul Fazl was attempting to oust him from the succession, was desirous of getting rid of his father's favourite. He found a ready agent in Bir Singh Dev, whom he incited with promises of future favour, to murder him on his way back from the Deccan. A vivid account of this murder is given by Asād Beg who was one of the Shaikh's retinue.<sup>1</sup> Abul Fazl had just left Sarai Barar (on maps called Sarai Barki, 77° 15' N., 25° 56' E.), two marches from Gwalior, near Antri. He was warned by a fakīr that Bir Singh was going to attack him but paid no heed. "On Friday morning, 4th Rabī-ul-Awal 1010 (12th August 1602), he rose and clothed himself in the white garments usually worn on Friday. He then courteously dismissed all who had attended him.....on the part of th . . . . . in all to about 200 horsemen, who . . . . . service had he retained them. But it is vain to lament." When fate droops her wing from heaven, the most able men are dumb." Bir Singh fell on the hand before Abul Fazl's tent had been struck even, and the Shaikh was mortally wounded by a blow from a spear. Bir Singh came up soon after and dismounted and taking Abul Fazl's head upon his knees, began to "wipe his mouth with his own garment.....just then the Shaikh unclosed his eyes. Nar (Bir) Singh, sitting as he was, saluted him.....the Shaikh looked bitterly at him. Nar Singh swore that he would carry him safely to Akbar. The Shaikh began to abuse him angrily. Nar Singh's attendants told him he would not be able to convey him away, for the wound was mortal.....Nar Singh then rose from the Shaikh's head and his attendants despatched him, and cutting off the head of the great one started off meddling with no one else, but even releasing those whom they had taken prisoner."

Akbar was beside himself with grief and fury when the news was brought him, and at once despatched Rāy-Rāyān and

1. E. M. H., VI, 151.

a strong force to capture the murderer, Rājā Rām Shāh, being called on to assist. Bir Singh fled to Irich fort which was taken by the Mughals, but he escaped to Orchhā. Orchhā was invested and taken and Bir Singh forced to conceal himself in the jungles.

The pursuit was relentless, but Bir Singh, undoubtedly aided by Prince Salim, managed to escape for the time, though there is little doubt that he would have been ultimately captured but for the sudden death of Akbar on October 13th, 1605.<sup>1</sup>

The succession of Jahāngīr at once altered Bir Singh's position. From being a fugitive he became a favourite and was at once received at Court and loaded with honours.

Jahāngīr makes no secret of his part in this affair. He writes in his own diary:<sup>2</sup> "The bearing of the Shaikh's family fully convinced me that if he were allowed to arrive at Court he would do everything in his power to augment the indignation of my father against me. Under this apprehension I negotiated with Bir Singh Dev. His country lay on the high-road of the Shaikh from the Deccan. I sent him a message inviting him to annihilate Shaikh Abul Fazl on his journey with promises of favours and considerable reward. Bir Singh Dev agreed to do this and God rendered his aid to the success of the enterprise.....his head was sent to me at Allahabad." Bir Singh was at once raised to the dignity of a mansab of 3,000 horse. Jahāngīr also says of Bir Singh, "he was as brave, kind-hearted and pure as any man of his age.....the cause of his elevation was the murder of Abul Fazl."

Soon after his accession Jahāngīr gave Orchhā to Bir Singh, ousting Rām Shāh from the throne. Rām Shāh made some show of resistance, but Abdulla Khān, the *sūbahdār* of Kālpī, and Hassan Khān were sent to assist Bir Singh Dev in establishing his authority. They, with the assistance of the Bundelā *sardārs* of Katerā, and Pratāp Rao, confirmed Bir Singh's authority. Rām Shāh was supported by Indrajit and Bhopāl Rao, and a battle was fought in which Rām Shāh was defeated. He was made prisoner and taken before the Emperor on 27th *Zil Quada*, A. H. 1015 (1606 A. D.). The Emperor set him free and allotted him Chanderī and Bānpur<sup>3</sup> in *jūgīr* yielding an income of 10 lakhs of rupees. In the fourth year of his reign Jahāngīr married Rām Shāh's sister.<sup>4</sup> Rām Shāh died in 1612.

1. *Talvīl-i-Ullār-nāma*—E. M. H., VI, 115.

2. E. M. H., VI, 228.

3. Chanderī and Bānpur are now part of Gwalior State.

4. The Jahāngīr *Nāma*, however, says it was his daughter. (See *Mem. of Jahāngīr Tāzī*, p., 112.)

Bir Singh Dev  
(1605-27).

Bir Singh Dev is the most famous of all the Orchhā chiefs. A man of strong personality and no scruples, he soon acquired large territories and immense wealth. Jahāngīr granted his favourite many honours including a royal palanquin, a mansab of 7,000 and a drum and flag of State; and also gave him the sword of Abul Fazl which is still carefully preserved.

When Jahāngīr went to Allahābād, Bir Singh Dev visited him. He went to Muttra on a pilgrimage in 1614, and weighed himself against gold which together with 81 other maunds, he distributed in charity. The balance which was prepared to weigh him is said to still exist on the Vishrāntghāt at Muttra, while mention is made of these munificent gifts in *sānads* held by priests at that place.

The Orchhā territories grew rapidly under his strong arm, and all western Bundelkhand and a part of Baghelkhand fell under his sway. The whole of his possessions were divided into 81 *parganas* containing about 125,000 villages, the total revenues being two crores of rupees.

Bir Singh seems in later days to have felt some remorse at the advantage he had taken of his elder brother, and endeavoured to atone for his conduct by lavish expenditure on charitable objects.

In Orchhā itself Bir Singh erected many buildings including the Jahāngīr Mahāl, Chaturbhuj Mandir, and Phūl Bāgh.

Many tales have centred round the personality of this Chief. The following story, relating to building of the island palace, is current among the people of Orchhā. One day when the work of laying the foundations of the Jahāngīr Mahāl was being contemplated, the Mahārājā after visiting the shrine of Chaturbhuj, was standing at the door watching the flow of the Betwā. As he watched he saw a pregnant Brāhmaṇ woman with a load on her head endeavouring to cross the river. As she reached an island in the centre of the stream, the pains of delivery came upon her. The king seeing her distress sent his servants to assist her. They rendered her every help, and she was safely delivered of a son on the spot. The Mahārājā had all care taken of her and gave her clothes and ornaments, called her his daughter and sent her home. The Brāhmaṇ woman gave him her blessings. This act of kindness spread his fame far and wide. While the Mahārājā was making arrangements for her departure, a sādhu came and stood before him and said, "O king, this act of kindness is most meritorious. The island on which this occurred is the habitation of the great sage. If you build a palace here and reside in it the rule of your race will be secured for ever." Firmly believing in the words of the holy man he began to construct his palace on the island. It is reported that when



honour, while a fitting retinue was assigned him by his father. Thus on *Kārtik Sudī* 9th, V. S. 1683 (October 1626 A. D.), Bhagwān Rao went to Datīā and made it his place of residence, and from this time on Datīā became a separate State.

Bir Singh died in 1627, three or four months before his great patron.<sup>1</sup> His ashes lie at Orekhā beneath a huge rugged stone-built cenotaph, near to the great palace and temple his energy had raised, and on the banks of the stream on which he had spent his days. A fitting resting place for this turbulent architecture loving monarch.

Jhujhār  
Singh  
(1627-34).

Jhujhār Singh was a very different man from his father. Brought up in the lap of luxury, the heir to vast estates and immense wealth, he was filled with the pride of his own importance.

Jahāngīr died on 28th October 1627, and his son Shāh Jahan ascended the throne on the 6th February 1628.

On the new Emperor's accession various titles were distributed, among those who received honors being Rājā Bhārat Singh, Bundelā of Chanderī, Pahār Singh and Narhar Dās. Jhujhār Singh was at the same time given a *mansab* of 4,000, and his son Vikramājit of 1,000, horse.

Later on Jhujhār Singh was called to Delhi. While there he entrusted the administration of his kingdom to his brother Hardaul.

The name of Jhujhār Singh comes down to posterity linked with atrocious crime of fratricide, a murder as unwarranted as it was cold blooded.

Hardaul and Jhujhār Singh's wife had long been fast friends, he addressing her as mother, she him as son. Mischief-makers, however, took advantage of the Chief's absence to write accounts of Hardaul and the Mahārāni which stirred up Jhujhār's jealousy. Believing that the tales he had heard of their criminal intimacy were true, he suddenly returned home and ordered his wife to administer poison to Hardaul, a command which if she were a chaste wife she was bound to obey. The Mahārāni, deeply grieved, was obliged to obey; she prepared the poisoned meal and took it to Hardaul. While giving it to him she burst into tears. Hardaul asked the cause of her grief. She told him, upon which he at once consumed the remainder of the dish exclaiming "Mother dear, any food from your hand must ever be as nectar to me. This proof of your innocence is of more value than life, and will but immortalise my name."

Hardaul then went out and acquainted his friends with what had occurred. Several of them joined him in eating

the poisoned food. When the poison began to affect him he went to the temple of Rāghava, prayed for a short time and expired.

This story is well-known to every man, woman and child in Bundelkhand, and is not an unfamiliar tale even in the Punjab. In Bundelkhand *chabūtrās* (small platforms) are to be seen in every village, at which Hardaul is worshipped as a god, while many songs are sung about him.<sup>1</sup>

The news of this murder and of somewhat aggressive preparations Jhujhār Singh was making, rendered Shāh Jahān suspicious, and he gave instructions for his punishment.<sup>2</sup>

A force was sent against him under Mahābat Khān with whom Rām Dās of Narwar and Bhagwān Rao were, among others, associated. Subsidiary forces were sent under Khān Jahān via Chanderī accompanied by Bhārat Singh, the chief of that place, and under Abdulla Khān from the north-east accompanied by Pahār Singh. When the Khān-i-Khānān Mahābat Khān arrived at 30 miles from Orchhā, Jhujhār Singh alarmed at his position, came to terms, but not before the fort of Irich had been taken by Abdulla Khān (1627-28).<sup>3</sup> Mahābat Khān interceded for him, and Shāh Jahān pardoned him and gave him a command of troops in the Deccan. Pahār Singh was awarded drums of State for his services at Irich.

Jhujhār Singh was obliged to surrender some of his districts, retaining only so much as was commensurate with his *mansab* of 4,000, and was required to put a force of 2,000 infantry, and 2,000 horse at the Emperor's disposal in the Deccan, and to make a present of 40 elephants.

In 1629-30 Khān Jahān Lodī rebelled. After his defeat at Dholpur by Abbul Hasan<sup>4</sup> he fled across the Chambal and entered the Orchhā State. Jhujhār Singh was away in the Deccan, but his son Vikramājīt connived at Khān Jahān's escape, sending him safely out by unfrequented roads. Finally, a large force was sent after the rebel in which Jhujhār Singh, Pahār Singh, Chandrabhān, Narhar Dās, and Bhagwān Rao held commands.<sup>5</sup>

In a battle near Rajori, Narhar Dās fell, while Khān Jahān's nephew, Bahādur Khān, was killed by Parashrām, a *sardār* of Pahār Singh's. In 1630 Khān Jahān was abandoned by his

1. Ar. Sur. Rep.; XVII, 162; J. B. A. S., 1875. Sleeman—*Ramblers and Recollections* (Constable), 1-198, 282-288.

2. In Dow's "Hindostan" it is said that Jhujhār Singh rebelled because the tribute payable by him had been increased. Vol., III, 119.

3. E. M. H., VII, 7. Mahābat Khān appeared in the Darbār with his own hands chained to those of Jhujhār Singh (Dow-loc: cit.).

4. E. M. H., VII, 9ff.

5. Do. VII, 13.

ally, the Nizām, and was obliged to quit the Deccan and crossing the Narbadā at Dharampuri retired to Mālwā.<sup>1</sup> Here he was met by Abdulla Khān and Muzaffar Khān, and driven from the district passing through Depalpur, Nolai, Tāl and Khilchipur to Sironj. On this occasion Vikramājīt redeemed his honour, and attacked the rear guard under Darya Khān, killing him and forcing Khān Jahān to retire northward. In this fight 200 Bundelās, and 400 Afghāns were killed. Vikramājīt was raised to a *mansab* of 2,000 personal and 2,000 horse,<sup>2</sup> and given the title of Yuva-Rāj.

Jhujhār Singh took part in the capture of Dhārūr fort<sup>3</sup> and was rewarded for his services.

At last Khān Jahān was caught at the village of Nimi<sup>4</sup> near Bhānder, and was utterly defeated. Rājā Amar Singh of Bāndhogarh (Rewah) distinguishing himself in the fight. Escaping from the field Khān Jahān was killed at Seondha near Kālanjar.

Vikramājīt took part in the capture of the fort of Daulatābād in 1632,<sup>5</sup> his uncle Pahār Singh who was there especially distinguishing himself. Venī Dās Bundelā, Chandrabhān and others received rewards for their services in this campaign. Jhujhār Singh<sup>6</sup> who had done good service in the Deccan, in 1634 was allowed to return to his own country leaving his son Vikramājīt behind. On his return he attacked Prem Nārāyan (called Bim Narayan in Elliot) the Gond chief of Garha-Mandla and seized Chaurāgarh fort, murdering Prem Nārāyan, who had surrendered under promise of fair terms. He also seized property worth many lakhs of rupees.

Prem Nārāyan's son accompanied the Khān Daurān to Court and laid his grievances before the Emperor, who sent a *farmān* by the hand of Kabirāj, Brāhmaṇ, ordering Jhujhār Singh to make reparation, by either surrendering Chaurāgarh or an equivalent from his own districts, and to send 10 lakhs in cash to the Emperor.

Jhujhār heard of the issue of this *farmān* before it reached him, and at once directed Vikramājīt who was at Bālāghāt to return to Orchhā. The *Sūbahdār* of Bālāghāt failed to intercept him, but Khān Zamān, Nāzim of Payinghāt (in Berārs), pursued him accompanied by Rājā Pahār Singh, Vikramājīt's uncle, Chandrabhān and others and caught him up at Ashia in Mālwā. A fight took place in which Vikramājīt was wounded, but

1. E. M. H., VII, 18.

2. " " VII, 20.

3. " " VII, 20.

4. " " VII, 21ff.

5. " " VII, 36.

6. " " VII, 47.

effected his escape and joined his father at Dhāmoni. An army of 20,000 men was then sent against Jhujhār Singh. The army moved in three divisions and united at Bhānder. Chandrabhān Bundelā, Rājā Sangram Singh of Chanderī, and Amar Singh of Bāndhogarh accompanying this force, while Pahār Singh was sent to Pichhor.

When Jhujhār Singh saw that he could not hope to escape should these armies reach his dominions, he made a request of the Emperor through the Khān-i-Khānān, that if an officer of the Court were sent he would lay his case before him. The Emperor accordingly sent word by Sundar Kabirāj that all his offences would be pardoned, provided he paid 30 lakhs of rupees in cash, and made over a fort on the Betwā in lieu of Chaurāgarh. He further ordered the generals not to advance until the return of the Kabirāj. Sundar Kabirāj went to Jhujhār Singh, but returned without having arranged matters.

Thereupon the Emperor issued orders for the army to advance, the whole force being put under the nominal command of Prince Aurangzeb.

After the rains were over the army left Bhānder.<sup>1</sup> On arriving within six miles of Orchhā the army was constantly occupied in cutting its way through the dense jungles which then surrounded the place, making but little advance daily. Jhujhār Singh had a garrison of 5,000 horse and 10,000 foot, and made every effort to contest the passage of the woods. He daily sent skirmishing parties of cavalry and infantry, who kept under cover of the trees and annoyed the working parties with arrows and muskets. The imperial forces, however, steadily advanced, and finally reached the village of Kumarra about five miles north-west of Orchhā.

Rājā Devī Singh Bundelā of Chanderī, was leading the advance guard and pressing forward drove back Jhujhār's men. Alarmed at this steady advance, in the face of such obstacles Jhujhār sent his family and treasure to Dhāmoni fort, which his father had built.

On the north-east and south this place was defended by deep ravines, while a broad moat 60 feet wide ran along the western side. Leaving a small garrison in Orchhā he and Vikramājīt fled to Dhāmoni. The imperial army easily overcame the small garrison, taking the fort by escalade. The fort was made over to Rājā Devī Singh of Chanderī, who was assigned the whole of the Orchhā territories. After resting a day the army crossed the Satadhāra in pursuit of Jhujhār Singh. When they arrived at five miles from Dhāmoni, Jhujhār, who was now thoroughly alarmed, fled to Chaurāgarh.

---

1. E. M. H., VII, 48.

The army here also was engaged two days in cutting its way through the forests round the fort. The garrison kept up a heavy fire till midnight when they offered to capitulate, and finally escaped in the darkness. The general proposed to enter the next morning, but some of the imperial forces made their way in at once and commenced to plunder. While so engaged a spark accidentally ignited some powder in a bastion, blowing it up and 80 yards of wall on either side. About 300 men and 200 horses who were near the spot were killed. Several wells filled with treasure amounting to about two lakhs were found in the jungles near the fort.<sup>1</sup>

By this time Jhujhār Singh had reached Shāhpur, distant about 2 *kos* (4 miles) from Chaurāgarh. He had already sent an ambassador to the Rājā of Deogarh with the object of taking shelter in his territory, should he be obliged to evacuate Chaurāgarh. In the interval an order was issued by the Emperor that Sayad Khān Jahān should remain in Orchhā territory and look after the administration and also search for concealed treasure and that Abdulla Khān and the Khān Daurān should march on Chaurāgarh accompanied by the Hindu chiefs. They commenced, therefore, to march in October. During the interval Jhujhār received the news of the death of the Rājā of Deogarh. On the approach of the army, therefore, Jhujhār destroyed all the cannon in the fort, burnt all his goods, blew up the houses of Prem Nārāyan, and taking his wives and children and treasure started for the Deccan by the Janji-Karaunta road, which lay through the territory of the Rājā of Deogarh. The Imperial army advanced and seized the fort. The Chaudhari of Karaili named Rāgho, then came to the Khān Daurān and told him that Jhujhār Singh was marching south with an army of 2,000 horse and 4,000 infantry, and had with him 60 male and 40 female elephants, some loaded with treasure and others carrying his wives and children.

Abdulla Khān and the Khān Daurān at once started in pursuit, and passing through Garha-Kota and Lonji, which lay in the territory of Govind Gond, reached the boundaries of Chānda where Jhujhār was. Hearing of the approach of the Imperial army he commenced marching on at a rapid rate, but was after a long chase overtaken by Abdulla Khān. When hard-pressed Jhujhār and Vikramājit killed several of their women whose horses were too tired to allow of their escaping, and then turned to oppose the Imperial army. A desperate fight ensued, but at length the Bundelās were obliged to fly into the jungles, leaving their insignia of royalty and several elephants and camels loaded with treasure behind them. The people of the neighbourhood

1. E. M. H., VII, 49.

gave information that Jhujhār Singh had already sent his family and eight elephants loaded with treasures, in charge of his son, Udayabhān, and Musāhib Shām Dowa towards Golkonda and proposed following them. On receipt of this news Abdulla Khān and the Khān Daurān started in pursuit.

At length after a weary chase the pursuers came in sight of the fugitives, and the Khān Daurān sent on his eldest son, Sayad Muhammad, and Makund Singh Hāra with 500 horse. A hot pursuit followed in which the fugitives having no time to perform *jauhar*, in their desperation and hurry, inflicted a few wounds on Rānī Pārbati, the widow of Bir Singh Dev, and stabbed many others both women and children. Just as they were about to make off, Sayad Muhammad came upon them and put many of them to the sword. The Khān Daurān also arrived at this juncture and killed those who were endeavouring to escape. Durgabhān, son of Jhujhār Singh, and Durjan Sāl, son of Vikramājīt, were made prisoners. Under the orders of the Khān Daurān, Rānī Pārbati and the other wounded women and several elephants loaded with treasure were sent to Abdulla Khān. While they halted, news was brought that Jhujhār and Vikramājīt, who had escaped into the wilds, had been killed by Gonds with great cruelty.<sup>1</sup> The Khān Daurān sent out and recovered their bodies and after decapitating them sent the heads to the Emperor who was then at Sehore. The heads were hung upon the door of the *sarai* for all to gaze on.

The Emperor himself now moved to Orchhā. Soon after the fort of Jhānsi one of the chief Bundelū strongholds, which was held from Jhujhār Singh by Vasant Singh Bundelū, was taken. It is said that several crores worth of treasure were recovered from wells round Orchhā, both Bir Singh Dev and Jhujhār Singh having employed this means of concealing their possessions.

At Chānda to which the Emperor had moved from Orchhā, the wives of Jhujhār, his son Durgabhān and grandson Durjan Sāl, were brought before him. By the Emperor's order the two last were made Musalmāns and re-named Islām Kuli and Alī Kuli.<sup>2</sup>

Rājā Devī Singh, the son of Mahārājā Bhārat Singh of Chanderī, who had succeeded his father at Chanderī was made nominal ruler of Orchhā by Shāh Jahān. Rājā Devī Singh remained in Orchhā about two years. After that period Orchhā became the scene of continual fights and disturbances which he was quite unable to control, and he, therefore, returned to Chanderī abandoning Orchhā. While he was at Orchhā the Emperor, after viewing the fort and buildings, pulled down a large part of the temple of Chaturbhuj.

Devī Singh  
(1684-96).

1. A picturesque account is given by Dow (*Hindostan*, p. 147).

2. E. M. H., VII, 51.

In his journey through the districts of Orchhā the Emperor halted at many places. He visited Bir Sāgar, a tank built by Bir Singh Dev, and also Jatāra with its fine Samundar Tāl as it is called in the *Shāh-Jahān-nāma* or the Madan Sāgar as it is known locally. This tank was built by Madana Varman Chandella, and repaired by Bir Singh Dev. The place had been re-named Islāmābād by Islām Shāh Sūr.

At this time Kutb-ul-Mulk<sup>1</sup> made Udayabhān, son of Jhujhār Singh, his younger brother and Shām Dowa, who were at Golkonda, prisoners. The young boy was made a Musalmān and sent to be educated with Islām Kuli and Ali Kuli. Udayabhān and Shām were offered their lives if they would become Muhammadans otherwise death. "They chose the latter," says the historian, "and were sent to hell."

Interregnum  
(1637-41).

Although Devī Singh had assumed the administration of Orchhā State his rule had never been more than nominal and only lasted two years, and to all intents and purposes the whole of the former possessions of Bir Singh were confiscated except Chanderī which was held by Devī Singh, and Datīā which was held by Bhagwān Rao. Devī Singh served the Emperor faithfully, and was rewarded with considerable grants of land, much of which now lies in the Saugor District of the Central Provinces. Datīā was left undisturbed under the rule of Bhagwān Rao, who was generally at Delhi with the Court and was a trusted friend of the Emperor. Orchhā was thus made khālsā and included in the empire. In the letter sent by the Emperor to the Shāh of Persia mention is made of the conquest of the Deccan, and also of the defection and defeat of Jhujhār Singh and the attachment of his country to the crown.

In 1636,<sup>2</sup> intrigues were set on foot to place Prithvī Rāj, a young son of Jhujhār Singh, who had escaped from the field, on the throne. Insurrections and rebellions broke out, and Khān Bahādur Nasrat Jang was sent to suppress them. In the month of April 1639 (*Muharrum*, 1049 A. H.), Prithvī Rāj was taken prisoner and confined in Gwalior fort.<sup>3</sup>

The capture of Prithvī Rāj, however, did not put an end to disturbances, a new factor appearing on the scenes in Champat Rai, who was destined indirectly to cause the restoration of the Orchhā State, and to be directly the originator of a new section of the Bundelā clan, being the ancestor of all the Bundelā chiefs east of the Dhasān river, including Pannā, Charkhārī, Ajaigarh, etc. Champat Rai was

1. E. M. H., VII, 51.

2. Do. VII, 61.

3. Do. VII, 68.

the *jāqūrdār* of Mau Mahewa, being descended from Rao Udayājīt, the third son of Rudra Pratāp, whose descendants are always known as the *Dangāhī* Bundelās either from their general character for turbulence (*danga*, a row or disturbance) or from the trouble caused by Champat Rai and his more famous son Chhatarsāl.

After the Emperor's return to Agra, Champat Rai commenced a system of guerilla warfare. Aided by the ruggedness of Bundelkhand he swept down on the Mughal settlements, and on any small bodies of men moving in his vicinity, devastating the imperial lands, and driving away the cultivators. He even obtained possession of Orchhā and for a time held the Imperial forces at bay. When Aurangzeb and Murād were fighting against Dāra Shikoh, Champat Rai joined Aurangzeb's army and was instrumental in guiding him over the fords of the Chambal before the battle of Samurgarh (May 28th, 1658).<sup>1</sup>

Later on, however, his turbulence again brought him into collision with the Mughals and he was defeated, his eldest son Shālivāhan being killed.

The conduct of Champat Rai at last drove Shāh Jahān to try whether his own clan could not keep him in order, he, therefore, recalled Pahār Singh, the brother of Jhujhār Singh, from the Deccan and installed him as Rājā of Orchhā in 1641.

Mahārājā Pahār Singh had long been a faithful servant of the Emperor, engaging in every important campaign of the day, and on many occasions taking part against his own brothers and clansmen. Pahār Singh at his installation was granted a *mansab* of 5,000 personal and 2,000 horse. Soon after his succession Champat Rai visited him at Islāmābād (Jatāra). Information of this event was sent to the Emperor, who sent orders that Champat Rai should in future submit to Pahār Singh as the head of his clan. Later on, Pahār Singh interceded with the Emperor who consented to receive Champat Rai at Court and pardoned his offences. Shāh Jahān, who was well aware of the usefulness of men of the stamp of Champat Rai, treated him with honour and employed him in subjugating the fort of Kumhārgarh. Mahārājā Pahār Singh in recognition of his services in bringing Champat Rai to order was granted a part of the *pargana* of Kūnch, another portion being granted to Champat Rai for his services at Kumhārgarh. Pahār Singh took part in the attack on the Gonds of Gondwāna, being present at the capture of Rāisen and Ginnūrgarh in 1644. It is related that while here he heard that Gonds employed cows in ploughing and in response

Pahār Singh  
(1641-53).

1. *Bernier's Travels* (Constable), 46.

to a request that he should punish those who thus maltreated the sacred beast, he proceeded to Gondwāna and then on to the Berārs where he founded a village called Pahāsinghpura near Aurangābād, which is still held by the Orchhā chiefs.

When the expedition was sent to Balkh in 1645<sup>1</sup>. Pahār Singh accompanied it, as did Devī Singh of Chanderī, and took part in the siege of Ghōr. He also took part in the campaign of Kandāhār and Cabul (1648-52). Pahār Singh returned to Orchhā, however, for a short space in 1649, accompanying Dāra Shikoh to Kandāhār in 1651. He died in 1653. His ashes lie under a cenotaph at Orchhā, not far from those of his father. His continued absence in the wars left the administration of his State to others and it suffered in consequence.

Sujān Singh  
(1653-72).

On his death Pahār Singh was succeeded by his eldest son, Sujān Singh. Sujān Singh in 1655<sup>2</sup>. joined Prince Aurangzeb's expedition against Bijāpur and was wounded in the assault on the Bijāpur fort. He returned home when Aurangzeb retired on hearing of his father's illness.<sup>3</sup>

During the civil wars between the sons of Shāh Jahān, Sujān Singh remained at Orchhā and avoided taking either side.

Sujān Singh built the Sujān Sūgar tank at Arjār, 18 miles south-east of Jhānsi. His mother founded Rāmpur.

Mahārājā Sujān Singh died in 1672, leaving no issue, and was succeeded by his brother Indramānī.

Indramānī  
(1672-75).

Indramānī was the youngest son of Pahār Singh. No event of any importance occurred in his reign except that Suja Singh, a Sengar Rājpūt, attacked Orchhā with 22,000 men. He was, however, driven off.

Yashwant  
Singh  
(1675-84).

Yashwant Singh was succeeded by his son Yashwant Singh. The Marāthās were now gradually pushing their way into northern India. After the death of Champat Rai, Chhatarsāl, his son and successor, carried on his father's system of guerilla warfare and acting more systematically rapidly acquired much territory east of the Dhasān river. By 1671 he had completely established his rule over this region, which, since the defection of Jhujhūr Singh, had never been fully under the control of the Orchhā chiefs. In 1675 he made Pannā his headquarters and started the line of the Dangāhī chiefs. Rao Subha Karan was ruling at Datia during the time of Yashwant Singh.

Bhagwant  
Singh  
(1684-89).

Yashwant Singh died in 1684 and was followed by his son, Bhagwant Singh. He succeeded as a minor, the Mahārānī Amar Kunwarī becoming regent. He never came of age, dying while still an infant.

1. E. M. H., VII, 70.

2. " " " VII, 119.

3. " " " VII, 124.

The Mahārāṇī on the death of Bhagwant Singh adopted Udot Singh, who belonged to Hardaul's branch of the family. He was a feeble ruler and in no way capable of holding his own in those troublous days of Marāthā raids. The Mahārāṇī, however, contrived by paying subsidies to keep the Marāthās out of the State during her lifetime.

Udot Singh  
(1689-1736).

Bahādur Shāh had succeeded Aurangzeb in 1707. Udot Singh one day, when in attendance on the Emperor, killed a tiger single-handed, in commemoration of which Bahādur Shāh presented him with a sword engraved with the name "Bahadur Shah" which is still preserved. Jahāndār Shāh, Farukshiyār (1712-19) and Muhammad Shāh (1719-48) all succeeded each other during his reign. Udot Singh took part in the Sikh wars, being present at the siege of Lahore<sup>1</sup>. (1714). In Muhammad Shāh's day Udot Singh and his son Prithvī Singh were attached to the Emperor's retinue when he visited the mosque at Delhi during the *Id* festival. Udot Singh received a *khilat* and Prithvī Singh a royal palanquin which is still preserved and is always used by the Chief at the *Id* festival to this day.

In 1717 Devi Singh of Chanderī died, leaving three sons, Sāhu Singh, Senāpatī Singh and Durag Singh. A Brāhman Bhānudatt who was *kāmḍār* at the time selected Sāhu Singh. The claims of the sons were referred by Muhammad Shāh to Udot Singh as head of the house, and he after due inquiry supported Durag Singh, who succeeded, Sāhu Singh being assigned Khanja in *jūgīr*. Khanja until 1861 was part of Gwalior State, but in the exchanges then effected went to the British, and is now part of the Khurai *tahsīl* in the Saugor District of the Central Provinces. Senāpatī Singh got Bhānugarh also in the Khurai *tahsīl*.

Udot Singh's territories were rapidly diminishing before the Marāthā raids, but he was still looked up to as the head of the house, although the Panna branch was in better circumstances. In 1707, Bhārtī Chand of Datiā succeeded Dalpat Rao. Bhārtī Chand was not a son of the senior Rānī and Rāmchandra who was the son of the senior Rānī urged his claims which were supported by Udot Singh.

Bhārtī Chand died at the juncture and Rāmchandra succeeded, but died soon after. On his death further disturbances arose, Indrajit the grandson and heir of Rāmchandra, who had asserted his claim to the *gaddi*, being driven from Datiā. An appeal was again made to Udot Singh who supported Indrajit and finally established him on the *gaddi*.

There were at this time four main sections of Bundelkhand, Orchhā looked up to, as it is to this day, as the head of the

1. E. M. H., VII, 456.

clan, Datia still an independent State, Chanderi now absorbed into Gwalior, and Pannā with its various offshoots, many of which still exist.

Udot Singh was on 1st *Rajjab*, 1121 A. II. (A.D. 1709), granted a *farmān* confirming him in possession of the village of Pahārsinghpura near Aurangābād. This village is still held by the Orchhā chiefs.

In 1731 by a grant (dated 10th *Shāvāl*, 1147 A. II.) Udot Singh was given 13 *mahals*.

The Marāthās were now spreading everywhere. In 1730<sup>1</sup> Chhatarsāl of Pannā had called on them to aid him against Muhammad Bangash, and had made over a large section of his state to the Peshwā in return for this assistance. It is interesting to note that his successors Jagat Rāj and Hirde Shāh were the allies of Bājī Rao, while the Orchhā, Datia and Chanderi branches were strongly opposed to him.<sup>2</sup>

Thus the vast kingdom of Bir Singh Dev, which had already begun to fall in pieces through family dissensions before his death, was, by maladministration and the hand of the invader, entirely broken up, when that strong ruler had been scarcely ten years in his grave; and a century later saw the great *Dāngāhī* possessions of Chhatarsāl, similarly dissolving into petty holdings and passing into the grasp of the Marāthās.

Udot Singh died at Mahoba in 1736 and was succeeded by his son Prithvi Singh.

The old order was rapidly changing; both Mughal and Rājput falling a prey to the wolves of the Decean. Unable to resist, Prithvi Singh was obliged to purchase a very partial immunity by the deliberate sacrifice of the larger part of his State, and Burwa Sāgar, Man-Rāmpur, Jhānsi and many other districts passed in about 1742 to the Marāthās. In 1748 Ahmad Shāh Abdālī made his infestual raid on India and Muhammad Shāh died and was succeeded by Ahmad Shāh (1748-54).

Prithvi Singh's son predeceased him, and on his death his grandson Sāwant Singh followed.

The destruction which had commenced in the late reign continued at a rapid pace. Ahmad Shāh in 1756 again invaded India and sacked Delhi. Much land passed away including the *jāqūrs* of Udot Singh's eight sons called the Ath-garhī. In 1759 Alamgīr II was murdered, and Ahmad Shāh reappeared in India. In 1761 came the battle of Pānipat, which broke up the Marāthā confederacy and threw the country into the hands of the great Marāthā generals Sindhia and Holkar, the Mughal Emperor becoming a mere puppet in their hands.

Prithvi Singh  
(1736-52).

Sāwant  
Singh  
(1752-65).

1. E. M. II., VIII, 46, 47.

2. Grant Duff's *History of the Marathas*, Chapter XV-XVI.

But a new power was appearing on the scene, and less than four years later the battle of Buxar (1764) made the British paramount in India.

Alamgir's son Ali Gouhar, afterwards Shāh Alam, is said to have fled to the Rewah Chief at this time. On his return to Delhi after his father's murder in 1759 he passed through Orchhā and was received by Sāwant Singh with all honour.

Sāwant Singh, in return for these courtesies, received from Shāh Alam, a royal banner, and the title of *Makendra* which is still borne by the Orchhā Chief.

Sāwant Singh died in 1765 and was followed successively by Hāte Singh, Mān Singh and Bhārtī Chand. All these succeeded on adoption, Hāte Singh being a grandson of Udot Singh, Mān Singh, a great-grandson of Udot Singh, and Bhārtī Chand, a member of the Barāgaon branch of the house.

These chiefs were quite unable to cope with the Marāthās and the Orchhā territories rapidly dwindled, until little was left to the Chief but Orchhā town and a small piece of territory round it.

Historically these rulers were of no importance and it is certain that, but for the timely intervention of the British the Orchhā State would have been absorbed by the Marāthās.

At the time of Vikramājīt's succession the condition of the State was deplorable. His *sarvārī* consisted of only 50 sepoys, one elephant, and two horses. Still the Chief stubbornly refused to recognise the suzerainty of the Marāthās. Finally, he contrived with the assistance of his able minister, Jang Bahādur, to regain a certain portion of his ancestral possessions. On 23rd December 1812 he made a treaty of alliance<sup>1</sup> with the British, and was henceforth relieved of all anxiety as regards Marāthā aggressions. In 1817 he abdicated in favour of his son, Dharampāl.

During Dharampāl's rule in 1829 Lord Combermere, then Commander-in-Chief, visited Orchhā. An account of this visit is given by two members of his staff.<sup>2</sup> Dharampāl died in 1834 and his father resumed charge of the State, but dying in the same year was succeeded by his brother Tej Singh.

Tej Singh carried on the administration successfully, dying after a rule of seven years.

Sujān Singh, cousin of the late Chief, succeeded as a minor. His succession was, however, disputed by the Larai Rānī, Dharampāl's widow, who claimed the right to adopt a successor. Serious disturbances followed. The two parties in the State were known as the *Naya Rāj* and *Purāna Rāj*, the latter name being given to the Larai Rānī's section.

Hāte Singh  
(1765-68).  
Mān Singh  
(1768-75).  
Bhārtī Chand  
(1775-76).

Vikramā-  
jīt  
(1776-1817).

Dharampāl  
Singh  
(1817-34)

Tej Singh  
(1834-41).  
Sujān Singh  
(1841-54).

1. Appendix A.

2. Mundy—*Pen and Pencil Sketches of a Tour in India*, 1832, Vol. II,  
115. Major Archer—*Tours in Upper India* (1833).

The Mahārājā in desperation retired from the State to Jhānsi. He returned two years later and made an attempt to regain his State, but his party was defeated in a fight at Prithipur and he returned to Jhānsi. The Government of India, who had approved of the succession of Sujān Singh, supported him, but allowed the Rānī to act as regent till he obtained his majority. Murder and other atrocities were freely perpetrated, culminating in the death of the Mahārājā by poison at the hands of his own brother.

**Hamīr Singh  
(1854-74).**

An attempt was made to put Dev Singh, the brother and murderer of the late Chief, on the *gaddi*, Sujān Singh having left no issue. The British Government, however, allowed the Larai Rānī to choose an heir, and she adopted a boy named Hamīr Singh, son of the Thākur of Digaura.

Dev Singh was sent into exile at Mandasor, but was released for his services in 1857, though he was prohibited from entering Orchhā territory. During the minority of the Chief the Rānī acted as regent.

The administration was not a success either under the Mahārānī or the Chief when he received his powers.

In 1857 while the State was still under the Rānī's charge, the Mutiny broke out. The Rānī remained a staunch ally of the British Government. On the outbreak of Mutiny among the men of the 6th Infantry, Gwalior Contingent, at Lalitpur, on 12th June 1857, the European fugitives from that station made their way first to the Rājū of Bānpur and afterwards to Tikangarh where they met with every kindness, being entertained by Pandit Prem Nārāyan, the young Chief's tutor.<sup>1</sup> Captain Gordon, Deputy Collector of Chanderī, wrote, on July 2nd, to the Darbār thanking them for their kindness.<sup>2</sup> After the massacre at Jhānsi on June 5th, the Orchhā forces overran the *parganas* of Mau-Rāmpur, Pandwāba and Garha-Kota lying between the Betwā and Dhasūn rivers, and also took Burwa-Sāgar. On 3rd September they invested Jhānsi itself, Nathlī Khān, the minister, commanding in person; the siege was abandoned on 22nd October.<sup>3</sup> In 1862 an adoption *sānād* was granted to Hamīr Singh.

**Pratāp Singh  
(1874--)**

Hamīr Singh died in 1874 and was succeeded by his younger brother Pratāp Singh, the present Chief, then 20 years of age. A British Officer, Major A. Mayne, was temporarily deputed to manage the State. In June 1874 the administration was placed in the Chief's hands, the British Officer being withdrawn in 1876.

1. " *Mofussilite*" newspaper of 30th June, 1857.

2. Original letter.

3. Government " *Narrative of Events, etc., in 1857-58*," Vol. I, 560.

Up to the Mutiny rupees 3,000 had been paid to the Jhānsi Rājā as tribute for the Tahraulī *pargana*. In recognition of the good services rendered in 1857-58 this was remitted together with the *istimrārī* revenue of Mohanpur village.<sup>1</sup>

In 1884 the land required for the Jhānsi-Mānikpur railway was made over, jurisdiction being ceded in 1888.

Mahārājā Pratāp Singh in 1886 received as a hereditary distinction, the title of *Sarāmad-i-Rājāhā-i-Bunkelhand*. He has also been granted the hereditary title of *Sawāi*. His Highness in 1903 attended the Delhi *darbār* obtaining the gold commemorative medal. In 1898 he was awarded the G. C. I. E., and in 1906, the G. C. S. I. He enjoys a personal salute of 17 guns, the ordinary salute attached to the chiefship being 15.

The Orchhā Chief bears the titles of His Highness Sarāmad-i-Rājāhā-i-Bundelkhand Mahārājā Mahendra Sawāi Bahādur, and enjoys a salute of 15 guns.

Of places of archæological interest there are none so far as is known. Jatāra, which was evidently an important centre under the Mughals, contains remains in the later Mughal style of Shāh Jahān, but does not show any signs of Pathān occupation, though it appears to have been favoured by Islām Shāh Sūr. Orchhā itself presents in the palace fort of Bir Singh Dev, one of the most magnificent specimens of domestic Hindu architecture in India. Many forts are scattered over the country that at Baldeogarh being the finest. The oldest remains in the State are great Chandella dams which hold in the waters of many lakes, that of the Madan Sāgar at Jatāra being perhaps the best example.

Of modern architecture there are endless specimens in local temples. All are alike in form, having an ugly square stucco body surmounted with the pine cone spires peculiar to this tract.

### Section III.—Population.

(TABLES III TO VI.)

Three enumerations have taken place giving : 1881, 311,514; 1891, 333,020; 1901, 321,634 persons, males 165,718; females 155,916, giving 94 females to 100 males.

The density is 155 to the square mile. The population has decreased by 5 per cent. since 1891.

The State comprises one town Tikamgarh (14,050) and 706 villages.<sup>2</sup> Of the latter 519 had a population of under 500; 115 of between 500 and 1,000; 53 of between 1,000 and 2,000, and 19 of between 2,000 and 5,000.

Of the total population 280,990 or 87 per cent. were born within the State.

Titles.

Archæology  
and Architec-  
ture.

Enumera-  
tions.

Density and  
Variation.

Towns and  
Villages

Migration.

1. *Kharīta* of His Excellency the Viceroy, dated 13th February, 1860.

2. Thirty-two villages have been brought on the Register since the Census of 1901.

Vital Statistics  
(Table V).

Religions.

Language,  
and Litera-  
cy ; Castes  
and  
Occupations.

SOCIAL CHA-  
RACTERISTICS  
Dress.

This subject has only been lately taken up and the figures not very reliable. The returns for 1905 give 18 births, and 10 deaths per mille.

Classified by religion there were 306,347 or 95 per cent. Hindus, 5,884 Jains, 8,248 Muhammadans and 1,155 Animists, chiefly Sahāriāns.

The prevailing language is Bundelkhandi. Of the total population 4,125 are literate of whom 86 are females. The principal castes are Brāhmans, Chamārs, Lodhis and Gūjars. The occupation most pursued is agriculture.

The dress of a man usually consists of a *dhotī*, *kurta* (also called *alphua*), *banda* and *pagrī* or *sāfa*. The *dhotī* is a loin cloth, which after one or two turns round the waist is taken through between the legs from behind and brought up in front, where it is tucked into the folds at the waist; the *kurta* is a sort of shirt, the *banda* is a coat which is worn over it. In cold weather the *mirzai*, a short padded coat, is also used. The *pagrī* or *sāfa* forms the head-covering. The former is a made-up head-dress, the latter merely a piece of cloth twisted on the head. *Pagrīs* and *sāfas* are often ornamented with gold embroidery. A *dupatta*, a piece of loose cloth, is carried by the well-to-do, or occasionally used as a *shawl*.

The cloth used in these garments varies with the position and wealth of the wearer.

Among the younger generation European trousers, Jodhpur riding breeches, and European coats and waistcoats, shirts and ties are becoming common. The shoes worn by the Bundelkhand peasants are remarkable for their high heel-piece and large flap over the instep. European shoes are generally worn by the better classes instead of native *jutis*. Round felt caps are often used in un-dress. Men of lowest classes and jungle tribes wear only the *dhotī*, and a piece of cloth on the head.

Women's dress consists of the *dkotī*, *sārī*, *ghāgra* and *cholī*.

The *sārī* is a long piece of cloth which covers the entire body from head to foot. It passes round the waist across the breast and over the shoulders, a loose end being used to throw over the head. It also passes between the legs leaving the calves and ankles free. The *cholī* is a bodice covering the breast.

All classes live mainly on vegetables. The poorer people eat *kodon*, *sāmān*, and the cheap pulses, while the well-to-do eat rice, wheat and gram, etc.

Meat is but little eaten except by the lower classes. As condiments various spices, *ghā* and butter, milk are used. Water is the ordinary drink, the only liquor being that distilled from the flowers of the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*).

The cultivator goes to his fields or the pastures soon after daybreak, and remains at his work till sundown, taking a rest

Food.

Daily life.

of two hours at noon. The tradesman opens his shop at about 8 A. M., and continues to serve customers till 6 P. M., with an interval of two hours rest at noon. The shops selling sweet-meats, drink, and cooked food remain open to a much later hour.

The huts of the poorer classes are of mud with tiled or thatched roofs, tiles being commonest except in the jungles. In towns and large villages substantial houses of brick are met with, often of two storeys in height.

The ceremonies and customs observed at marriages do not differ from those observed elsewhere in India. The expenses attendant on the ceremony vary with the position of the people.

The Hindus burn their dead except ascetics and infants who are buried. The ashes of the corpse are thrown into a sacred river or some local stream. Musalmāns bury their dead.

The festivals observed are numerous, the most important recognized by the Darbār as holidays being the *Dasahra*, *Diwālī* and *Holi*.

The *Dasahra* falls in the month of *Kunwār* (or *Ashwīn*). It commences on the first day of the bright half and lasts ten days, the last or tenth day (*Dasahra*)<sup>1</sup> falling in September or October, being celebrated with great pomp. The nine nights preceding are known as the *Navarātri*, and are devoted to worship of arms, horses, elephants and other appurtenances of war as the *Dasahra* marking the end of the rains was, in former days, the season for the recommencement of wars and forays.

The great double-edged *khānda* (sword) is carried in State to the principal temple, and placed there in charge of the priest for the ten days. The *khānda* is worshipped by the Chief, while all the horses and elephants are paraded and blessed. A *darbār* is also held which is attended by all feudatories. On the tenth day the Mahārājā goes in procession with the insignia of State, and accompanied by his feudatories to the Dhonga *maidān*, near the Roraya gate, where the *chhonkar* or *shamī* tree (*Prosopis spicigera*) is worshipped, and a *nīlkanth* or blue-jay (*Coracias indica*) is let loose.

The *Diwālī* or feast of lamps (*diva*, lamp and *ali*, row) falls in *Kārtik*. It commences on the 13th of the dark half of the month, known as the *dhan-teras* or "13th of wealth," this festival being specially dedicated to Lakshmi as goddess of prosperity and wealth. On the 14th, Yama, the god of the lower regions, who is also connected with riches, is worshipped, and on the 15th the *Amārvāsyā* or day of the new moon, all houses are illuminated and fireworks are let off. This feast marks the

Houses.

Marriage.

Disposal of  
the dead.Amusements,  
Games  
and Festivals.

Dasahra.

Diwālī.

1. Another derivation is from *das*=ten (*sins*) and *har*=to avert.

new commercial year on which all business men close their accounts and open their new books.

## Holi.

The *Holi* falls in the spring. It commences ten days before the full moon of *Phālgun* (February-March).

The distinctive feature in the observances is the throwing about of a red powder called *gulāl*, with which everything and everybody are covered.

Among Musalmāns the principal feasts are the *Id-ul-fitr* which marks the conclusion of the fast of *Ramzān*, when the *Mahārūjā* pays a visit in State to the chief mosque.

NOMEN-  
CLATURE.

Hindu boys are called by two names, the *janma-rāshī-nām*, or name used in ceremonies and in making out the horoscope, and the *bolta-nām* or name for every day use. These names are given after those of the deities such as Rāmechandra, Nārāyan, etc., after heroes in the great epics such as Shri Rām, Bhim Singh, Arjun Singh, etc., and also mere fanciful names like Ujāgar Lāl. Girls are similarly named. Among Muhammadans names connected with the service of God and religion are commonest such as Khuda Bakhsh, Abdulla, etc.

PUBLIC  
HEALTH.

No epidemics have attacked the State, and the health of the people has been consistently good, except during the famine year of 1897 when sickness was prevalent in the population, weakened by insufficient food.

## CHAPTER II.

### ECONOMIC.

(TABLES VII-XV AND XXVIII-XXX.)

#### Section I.—Agriculture.

The soil of the State is nowhere of very high fertility, the greater part of the country being covered with the red and yellow soils common to the gneissic area, though here and there intrusive dykes of trap have given deposits of a richer soil. The country does not at first sight appear promising. The surface is in most cases rocky, the rocks either taking the shape of huge cairns formed of great blocks of gneiss, which look as if they had been hurled together by some giant hand, or else form small hills with serrated summits, while the soil at their feet is hard and little suited for agriculture. But here and there stretches of fertile soil occur, sometimes of considerable area, where the intrusive dykes of trap have disintegrated to form black soil. The best soil is that of the Tahrauli *tahsil* which lies more in the alluvial tract of the Jumna-Ganges *doāb*. The rainfall does not vary in different parts of the State.

General conditions.

Cultivators distinguish a very large number of soils, which are divided into the following main classes :—

*Mauta*, a rich and fertile black loamy soil with a considerable power of retaining moisture, which is formed by the disintegration of the dykes of trap. *Patrua* is a less fertile variety of the preceding and considered generally inferior. *Rānkār* is a reddish soil containing small stones, which requires much irrigation. Other varieties of this soil are called *chhariya*, *retīlī* (sandy) and *pathrīlī* (stony). *Rānkār* ordinarily yields crops of *rātī*, *kutkī*, *tillī*, *urad*, *mūng*, maize, etc. *Kāwar* is a black loamy soil a lighter variant of *mauta* which cracks when dry forming a scaly surface; it contains large quantities of lime. *Hatkāwar* is a kind of *kāwar* which forms hard lumps, requiring to be crushed. *Mār* is a clayey black soil considered a variety of *mauta*. *Parua* is the light greyish-yellow soil common wherever the gneiss is covered by alluvium. It yields crops of *jowār*, *tillī*, *kodon*, *mūng*, *urad*, *arhar*, etc. *Duparua* is a similar soil so called from its being a mixture of yellow and red soils. *Dumat* is an inferior variety of *mauta*, of a black or grey colour. The produce of this soil is the same as in the case of *mauta*, but the yield is smaller. *Khadari*, this is another variety of *mauta*, and is so called because it contains *khadars* or hollows filled with water. These retain the water for a considerable time. It yields, however, but indifferent crops. It also produces aquatic plants like *gonghi* and *urai*. *Chhapara* is a soil containing much lime-stone and is of very poor quality. *Chiknī* is a loamy soil of

Classification of soils.

black or grey colour which retains moisture for a long time.

Soils are also classified according to their use, as *maerua* or *abādī*, land under cultivation; *parānta*, soil lying fallow; *rūnd*, the local name for grazing land; *bhāto*, the local name given to soil which has never been under cultivation, but which is capable of being cultivated; *ugār*, the local name for soil which has been newly broken and which is cultivated successively for three or four years and then left fallow for a year or two; *bāgh*, or garden land; *quhābaghī* or land which is reserved for the cultivation of wheat near the village site; *saiya*, land reserved for *unhārī* (*rabi*) crops; *nagarwār*, lowlying land which is allowed to remain fallow during *kharīf* crop season; *thāro*, the local name for irrigated land; *pathāla*, rocky or boulder strewn soil; *dusāta*, the local name for *dusātī* soil or land which yields both *siārī* and *unhārī* crops.

**Seasons.** Two agricultural seasons are recognized, the autumn season known as the *siārī* (cold), *Kārtikī* or *kharīf*, which lasts from about the end of May to October, and the spring season, the *unhārī* (hot) *Chaitī* or *rabi*, lasting from October to March. In the former the commoner food crops are sown such as *kodon*, *jowār*, maize, etc., and in the latter wheat and gram.

The cultivators' calendar is regulated by the influence of *nakshatras* or asterisms of which 27 fall in the twelve months. The agriculturist is obliged to depend on the local astrologer for information as to the fitting time for carrying out field operations, the vagaries of the luni-solar calendar making it impossible for any layman to gauge these periods accurately.

No figures are available dealing with early years, the area now cultivated amounts to about 636,400 acres.

**Agricultural practice.** Preparations both for *kharīf* and *rabi* sowings begin on *Akkātīj*, the third day of the light half of *Vaishākh* (May). The first operation known as *bakharanī* is commenced on the *Akkātīj*. Cultivators then worship *jeura*, some grain which has been sown in pots, and also the *bijāra* or pot used to hold the seed in when sowing. The next important day after *Akkātīj* is the last day of *Jeth* (June), the opening day of the rains. This is a recognized holiday. On this day the farmer gives a dinner to his employes, which signifies that the servant is thereafter bound to his master for the season.

**Ploughing.** The field is then roughly ploughed over and left till rain falls, when it is thoroughly ploughed up and prepared for sowing. The *rabi* fields are tilled continually until the rain ceases so that they may absorb all the moisture they can.

The average cost of ploughing a *bigha* is Rs. 3.

**Sowing.** *Siārī* crops are sown from *Ashādh* to *Sāwan* (June to August) and *unhārī* crops from *Ashādh* to *Kārtik* (September to November).

Before the sowing commences it is usual to worship the *bijūra*, which was formerly worshipped at *Akkātij*. *Dhurba* grass is planted round the pot and a silver ornament is put upon its neck, and it is then worshipped together with the plough and plough bullocks. In some places sweetmeats are distributed on the day sowing commences, and in other places after completion of the sowing, and a sweet dish prepared from wheat is distributed.

It is usual to select an auspicious day recommended by the astrologer to commence the sowing, but generally speaking the *Ardra nakshatra* is considered auspicious.

The period comprising the last nine days of *Ashādha* and the first 13 days of *Sāwan* known as the *nau-terai* (*nau*=9 *terai*=13) is held to be the most suitable. Some interpret this period to mean that the last nine days of *Ashādha* are the most favourable for *siārī* sowings, and the 13 days of *Ashwinī* for *unhārī* crops.

For the *kharif* crops two to three seers of seed are required, and for *rabi* crops 16 to 20 seers of seed.

Weeding is ordinarily carried out once or twice. In the case of rice it is done four times, and in the case of cotton three or four times. *Jowār* crops are weeded by passing a plough between the stalks of the standing crop.

Weeding.

In the case of the *siārī* crops reaping commences at the end of *Sāwan* or at the beginning of *Bhādon* (August-September) and is completed by *Kārtik* (October-November). Reaping for the *unhārī* crops begins at the close of *Phāgun* (February-March) and is completed by the end of *Chait* (March-April).

Reaping.

The cost of reaping amounts to about one-fourth the value of the crop. The labourers are usually paid in kind being given *dābis* or sheaves of grain.

In poor soils which are fit for *kharif* crops only, no second crop is sown and similarly in soils which are suited to *rabi* crops only, none but *rabi* crops are sown. But such land is rare. In the case of *dufasli* land *unhārī*, *rabi* crops of wheat, gram and linseed are sown after *siārī* crops such as *sāmān*, *phikār*, *kutkī* and *tillī* have been gathered. *Mūng*, *urad* and rice are cultivated both as *siārī* and *unhārī* crops.

*dufasli* or *dusāi*.

It is not an uncommon practice to sow two crops together in the same field. The most usual combinations are *jowār* and *arhar*, cotton and *jowār*, wheat and gram, etc. By this means the cultivator obtains two harvests for one preparation of the soil.

Mixed sow-  
ings.

Rotation, though well understood, is not very carefully observed. The common sequence is usually *jowār*, *arhar* or *urad* followed by cotton and *arhar* or *jowār* alone; wheat is often grown the fourth year, or wheat, gram, barley.

Rotation.

Manure.	The ordinary manures consist of village sweepings and cow dung, goat dung or ashes. Fifty cattle will produce 40 carts of manure.
Irrigated crops.	The crops usually irrigated are betel, sugarcane and garden produce which cannot be grown without it. Barley, <i>pissi</i> wheat, gram and <i>masūr</i> are also watered when possible.
Pests.	The commonest animal pests are birds, pigs, rats and deer. Rats are particularly destructive after a year of deficient rainfall as the young broods are not reduced by drowning. Insect pests are locusts, borers, and caterpillars. Vegetable pests such as blight, especially the rust called <i>gerua</i> , often cause damage.
Implements.	The principal implements are the <i>har</i> or plough, <i>lakkhar</i> or weeding plough, <i>chararīha</i> and <i>phāora</i> or spade, <i>kulārī</i> or axe, <i>parūna</i> , <i>bilkua</i> , <i>nārī</i> , <i>jholī</i> , <i>hansia</i> or sickle, <i>surāya</i> and <i>khrupi</i> or hoe for weeding.
Crops. Area sown (Table X).	For separating the grain from the husk and threshing the <i>ankadī</i> and <i>pacha</i> ( <i>pauja</i> ) are used; in cleaning the grain, the <i>tokanī</i> , <i>tirāro</i> , <i>rahāru</i> .
Food grains.	The total area sown in normal years is about 636,400 acres, or 47 per cent. of the total area.
Staple food grains.	At the <i>kharif</i> 524,200 acres, and at the <i>rabi</i> 112,200 acres are ordinarily cropped. The most important crops at the autumn sowing are <i>jowār</i> 60,400 acres, rice 18,400 and <i>tillī</i> 44,800 and at the <i>rabi</i> barley 45,500 acres, gram 36,800 and wheat 29,900.
Oil seeds.	The chief food grains sown at the <i>kharif</i> are <i>juarī</i> or <i>jowār</i> ( <i>Sorghum vulgare</i> ), <i>kodon</i> ( <i>Pennisetum polystachyon</i> ), <i>phikār</i> ( <i>Panicum frumentaceum</i> ), <i>mūng</i> ( <i>Phaseolus mungo</i> ), <i>urad</i> ( <i>Phaseolus radiatus</i> ), <i>arhar</i> or <i>rāhar</i> ( <i>Cajanus indiens</i> ), <i>dhān</i> or rice ( <i>Oriza sativa</i> ) and maize or <i>makkā</i> ( <i>Zea mays</i> ). At the <i>rabi</i> they are wheat or <i>gehān</i> ( <i>Triticum estivum</i> ), <i>jawa</i> or barley ( <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> ), gram or <i>chana</i> ( <i>Cicer arietinum</i> ), <i>pissi</i> or soft-red wheat, <i>masūr</i> ( <i>Ervum lens</i> ), <i>moth</i> ( <i>Panicum aconitifolius</i> ) and <i>matra</i> or peas ( <i>Pisum sativum</i> and <i>arrense</i> ).
Fibres.	In the rains maize, <i>kodon</i> , <i>rālī</i> , <i>sāmān</i> and <i>phikār</i> are eaten; <i>jowār</i> from November to March, and wheat, <i>pissi</i> and gram, from March to June. The poor, however, live all the year on <i>kodon</i> , <i>sāmān</i> and the cheaper pulses.
Spices.	The chief oil-seeds are <i>tillī</i> ( <i>Sesamum indicum</i> ), <i>arsī</i> or linseed ( <i>Linum usitatissimum</i> ), <i>gulī</i> , the fruit of the <i>mahuā</i> ( <i>Bassia latifolia</i> ) and <i>sarson</i> ( <i>Brassica napus</i> or <i>campestris</i> ).
	<i>Kapās</i> or cotton ( <i>Gossypium indicum</i> ) is the most important fibre, hemp both <i>san</i> ( <i>Crotalaria juncea</i> ) and <i>ambārī</i> ( <i>Hibiscus cannabinus</i> ) being sown to a small extent only.
	Of spices <i>haldi</i> (turmeric), <i>dhania</i> (coriander), <i>zūra</i> (cumin) and many other spices are cultivated.

In gardens many kinds of fruit and vegetables are produced. The most important are potatoes, onions, garlic, ginger, brinjal (*Solanum melogena*), carrots, radishes, melons and many varieties of gourd. The principal fruit trees are custard-apple, mangoe, guava, pomegranate, orange, pumelo and plantains.

Garden produce.

The total area irrigated is normally about 148,500 acres, the actual figures for 1901 being 143,923 and for 1902, 148,550 acres. The *talsil* with the most irrigated land is Baldeogarh with about 40,000 acres, Jatāra coming next with 34,000, and Tikamgarh 32,000 while in Tahrauli only 10,000 acres can be watered artificially.

Irrigation  
(Tables VIII  
& IX).

The chief sources of irrigation are wells and tanks. The area watered from tanks being about 45,000 acres. At Baldeogarh and Jatāra a large area is irrigated from the big lakes situated at these places.

Sources.

The machines for raising water are the *tarsa* (*charsa*), a leather bag usually worked by a pair of bullocks and three men, the *rahat* or Persian wheel, which is much more common in the State than the *tarsa*, three men and a pair of bullocks are also required to work this machine. The *dhondī* or *chāt* is used for drawing water out of tanks. It is worked by 10 or 12 men who stand in two parties and climb alternately up either side of the machine, thus raising the water. Water is also distributed over the field by gravitation through small channels, a process called *varana*. One well will irrigate on an average from 10 to 12 *bighas* (7 to 8 acres).

Wells are of two kinds, *kachha* or unbricked wells, costing about Rs. 100, and *pakka* or masonry wells, costing Rs. 300. The cost of digging a well depends largely upon the soil, a well dug in *mauta* soil being more expensive than one excavated in other soils, the cost sometimes rising to Rs. 600.

Wells.

The average cost of irrigation from wells is from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per *bigha*.

Though there are many tanks in the State most of them dry up soon after the rains, only a few holding water all the year round. From tanks which have an adequate store of water such as the Madan Sūgar in Jatāra, Bir Sūgar, and others, canals are led into the surrounding villages, and the cost of watering a field from these canals is only Re. 1 per *bigha* for the whole season.

Tanks.

It is a common practice for the owner of the land instead of irrigating his land himself, to employ another man to do the work giving one-third of the produce in return.

The live-stock as enumerated in 1902-03 showed 138,851 bullocks, 177,567 cows, 54,883 buffaloes, 172,000 goats and sheep. Ploughs with two bullocks numbered 54,535 and load carrying carts 5,261.

Cattle  
(Table VII).

No special breed of cattle is peculiar to this State. In all large villages cows, bullocks, buffaloes and goats are reared. Cattle imported from districts on the banks of the Ken and known as Kaina are considered the best.

The price of a pair of bullocks is about Rs. 50, of a she-buffalo Rs. 50 to 80, and an ordinary cow Rs. 15.

**Pasture lands.** No difficulties are experienced in the way of feeding cattle as there is ample pasture ground in every village. Until lately it was not usual to collect the stalks of *jowār* (*kurbi*) for use as fodder, but this, since the late famine, is being more extensively practised.

**Diseases.** Many diseases are recognized by cultivators, the most common being *Mātā-devī*, *sād* or *sār*, *phāsi* (anthrax), *phopasa* or *phāphada* (pneumonia) and *tondi* (foot and mouth disease). In *Mātā-devī* the back of the animal is affected, the skin and horns become hot and dry, and the mouth, throat and intestines ulcerate. The animal is given a solution of *bel* fruit and saltpetre. *Sād*, *sār* or *phāsi* is anthrax. The remedy resorted to is linseed oil and a solution of saltpetre and rice and water. If the tongue swells the veins in it are lanced. In *phopasa* or *phāphada* the animal is given a solution of saltpetre, and if pain is severe is cauterized and poulticed on the ribs. *Tondi* or foot and mouth disease is treated with a poultice of *nīm* (*Melia azadirachta*), lime, tobacco leaves, and powdered charcoal in equal quantities, a mixture of alum saltpetre and *gur* being applied to the mouth.

**Agricultural population.** The people, for the most part, live on agriculture, about 80 per cent. of the whole population being engaged in cultivation.

**Classes engaged in agriculture. Holdings.** All classes, generally speaking, engage in agriculture, Brāhmans, Thākurs, Chamārs and even Baniās. The average holding amounts to about two acres.

**Indebtedness.** Most cultivators in the State are in debt, but are not so hopelessly involved as they are in many parts of India. These debts are in most cases legacies, which have been passed on from father to son, and which, there is no likelihood, will ever be finally paid off. The reckless expenditure lavished on marriage ceremonials is, to a very great extent, responsible for this state of affairs.

**Takkāri.** The agriculturists receive seed *takkāri* from the State stores situated in each *tahsīl* in the beginning of *Asādh* for the *kharīf* crops, and again at the close of *Ashwin* or in *Kārtik* for the *rabi* crops. The *kharīf* advances are recovered in *Kārtik*, and the *rabi* advances in *Chait*.

Grain advances are recovered in kind with  $\frac{1}{4}$  or 25 per cent. additional grain, a system called *sarvāin* ( $1\frac{1}{4}$ ). Advances in cash are also granted with interest at 12 per cent. per annum.



No special breed of cattle is peculiar to this State. In all large villages cows, bullocks, buffaloes and goats are reared. Cattle imported from districts on the banks of the Ken and known as Kaima are considered the best.

The price of a pair of bullocks is about Rs. 50, of a she-buffalo Rs. 50 to 80, and an ordinary cow Rs. 15.

Pasture lands.

No difficulties are experienced in the way of feeding cattle as there is ample pasture ground in every village. Until lately it was not usual to collect the stalks of *jowār* (*karki*) for use as fodder, but this, since the late famine, is being more extensively practised.

Diseases.

Many diseases are recognized by cultivators, the most common being *Mālā-devī*, *sūd* or *sūr*, *phāsi* (anthrax), *phopasa* or *phāphada* (pneumonia) and *tondī* (foot and mouth disease). In *Mālā-devī* the back of the animal is affected, the skin and horns become hot and dry, and the mouth, throat and intestines ulcerate. The animal is given a solution of *bil* fruit and saltpetre. *Sūd*, *sūr* or *phāsi* is anthrax. The remedy resorted to is linseed oil and a solution of saltpetre and rice and water. If the tongue swells the veins in it are lanced. In *phopasa* or *phāphada* the animal is given a solution of saltpetre, and if pain is severe is cauterized and poulticed on the ribs. *Tondī* or foot and mouth disease is treated with a poultice of *nīm* (*Melia azadirachta*), lime, tobacco leaves, and powdered charcoal in equal quantities, a mixture of alum saltpetre and *gur* being applied to the mouth.

Agricultural population.

The people, for the most part, live on agriculture, about 80 per cent. of the whole population being engaged in cultivation.

Classes engaged in agriculture.  
Holdings.

Indebtedness.

All classes, generally speaking, engage in agriculture, Brāhmans, Thākurs, Chāmārs and even Bāniās. The average holding amounts to about two acres.

Most cultivators in the State are in debt, but are not so hopelessly involved as they are in many parts of India. These debts are in most cases legacies, which have been passed on from father to son, and which, there is no likelihood, will ever be fully paid off. The reckless expenditure lavished on marriage ceremonials is, to a very great extent, responsible for this state of affairs.

Takkari.

The agriculturists receive seed *takkari* from the State stores situated in each *tahsīl* in the beginning of *Asādh* for the *kharif* crops, and again at the close of *Ashwin* or in *Kārtik* for the *rabi* crops. The *kharif* advances are recovered in *Kārtik*, and the *rabi* advances in *Chait*.

Grain advances are recovered in kind with  $\frac{1}{4}$  or 25 per cent. additional grain, a system called *sawāin* ( $1\frac{1}{4}$ ). Advances in cash are also granted with interest at 12 per cent. per annum.

## Section II.—Wages and Prices.

(TABLES XIII AND XIV.)

Wages for agricultural operations are mostly paid in kind.

For weeding  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 seers of grain are given. For reaping wages vary to a greater extent,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 seers of grain being usual, but  $1\frac{1}{2}$  not being uncommon. The bundles of the crop given are called in the case of *jowār*, *junarī* and of wheat, *bariyas* or *dabias*.

Wages.

Village artisans and servants such as blacksmiths, carpenters, barbers, washermen, potters and others, who repair the village implements, etc., receive a share of the village grain at each harvest.

The cash wages paid for skilled labour have risen, blacksmiths getting  $-/8/-$  instead of  $-/3/-$ , and carpenters  $-/6/-$  instead of  $-/4/-$ . No marked rise has taken place in the wages paid for unskilled labour.

Dues are given at the sowing, reaping and threshing. These vary from 1 to 2 *varaiyās* except at the reaping when they amount to from 3 to 5 *varaiyās*.<sup>1</sup>

The prices of food grain have varied considerably in the last twenty years or so. Thus *jowār* which sold in 1881 at 35 seers to the rupee now sells at 20 seers, and rose as high as 12 seers in 1900 and 1902; *kodon* selling in 1881 at 56 seers to the rupee, now sells at 30, and in 1902 rose to 18; wheat in 1881 sold at 23 seers and now at 13 seers; *gram* at 32 seers and now at 21. A similar rise in prices is noticeable everywhere. Prices are, however, much more equal throughout the State.

Prices  
(Table XIII).

The material condition of the trading classes is good, and has increased markedly in the last 30 years. Improved administration and the opening of roads and railways have been the principal causes of their increased prosperity.

Material  
condition.

The middle class clerk is in less flourishing circumstances. This is in main due to low pay, which averages about Rs. 20 a month, combined with the necessity for keeping up appearances and dressing, respectably. His sons, moreover, unlike those of the cultivator, do not add to the income of the household or assist in maintaining the family, until comparatively late in life, while requiring to be supported and educated.

The cultivator is, generally speaking, in good circumstances. The incidence of the revenue demand is low and leaves him a fair margin of profit, which enables him to withstand a year of scarcity, though not perhaps one of actual famine. If he would learn to save and not lavish money in ceremonials, such as marriage, he would be in quite easy circumstances.

1. A *Varaiya* equals 21 *Gajāshahi taliat* or about two seers weight.

Section III.—Forests.  
(TABLE IX.)

## Classes.

The forests of the State which cover about 106,500 acres are not of great importance. They are, for administrative purposes, divided into three classes. First class forest which contains *sāgon*, *achār*, *tendū*, etc., second class containing *seja*, *khair*, *siras*, *aonla*, *dhava*, etc., and third class forest which contains *chhiula*, *salai*, etc.

## Control.

The forest department under the supervision of the State forest officer, who is subordinate to the revenue department, controls the forest. He has two assistant foresters under him whose duty it is to inspect the forests. Under these assistants are *girdāwars* (rangers) in each *tahsil* and *havildārs* (guards). The *havildār* is at the head of the *banrakhs* (patrols). A *muharrir* or clerk is posted to each *tahsil* who collects the forest dues and keeps the accounts. All timber and fuel from the forests is sold, the usual *sāyar* duties being levied. The collection and sale of miscellaneous products such as gum, bee's wax, honey and medical herbs is given out on contract.

It is customary to give timber gratis to cultivators to build houses with, and wood is generally given free for the manufacture of agricultural implements.

Villagers have no right to fell trees or graze cattle in reserved forest, but are allowed to buy any trees that may have fallen naturally. In times of scarcity and famine the people are given full permission to pluck or gather wild fruits such as *ber*, *tendū*, *karaunda* and *makor*.

The forest guards are responsible that no one lights fires in the reserved forest. The forests are also separated from the surrounding country by a tree-less zone, and as far as possible the boundaries are marked by rivers and *nālas*.

## Reserved area.

As no survey has been made the actual reserved area is not known, but is estimated that 30,000 acres, or about one-fourth of the total forest area, is reserved.

## Jungle tribes.

*Shhāriūs* are the principal jungle tribe living in the forests. They work for the department and are paid at the rate of two annas per day for a man, 1 anna 6 pies for a woman, one anna for a child.

The following is the list of principal trees :—

Vernacular name.	Botanical name where known.
------------------	-----------------------------

Achār	... <i>Buchanania latifolia</i> .
Akol	... <i>Alangium lamarckii</i> .
Am	... <i>Mangifera indica</i> .
Amaltūs	... <i>Cassia fistula</i> .
Aonla	... <i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> .
Bakāin	... <i>Melia azedarach</i> .

<i>Vernacular name.</i>	<i>Botanical name where known.</i>
Bahera	... <i>Terminalia belerica.</i>
Bambūl	... <i>Acacia arabica.</i>
Bāns	... <i>Bambusa arundinacea, Dendrocalamus-strictus, etc.</i>
Barhat	... <i>Atrocarpus lakoocha.</i>
Bel	... <i>Aegle marmelos.</i>
Beri	... <i>Zizyphus jujuba.</i>
Bijs	... <i>Pterocarpus marsupium.</i>
Chhiula	... <i>Butea frondosa.</i>
Dhawa	... <i>Anogeissus latifolia.</i>
Ghont	... <i>Zizyphus xylopera.</i>
Gunja	... <i>Abrus precatorius.</i>
Hardū	... <i>Adina cordifolia.</i>
Harsingār	... <i>Nyctanthes arbortristis.</i>
Imli	... <i>Tamarindus indica.</i>
Jāmun	... <i>Eugenia jambolana.</i>
Kaima	... <i>Ficus infectoria.</i>
Kaitha	... <i>Feronia elephantum.</i>
Karadi	... <i>Sterculia urens.</i>
Karāt	... <i>Bauhinia purpurea and variegata.</i>
Karaunda	... <i>Carissa carandas.</i>
Kāwa	... <i>Terminalia arjuna.</i>
Khajūr	... <i>Phoenix sylvestris.</i>
Khera, Khair	... <i>Acacia catechu.</i>
Khinni (Khirni)	... <i>Mimusops hexandra.</i>
Kozam	... <i>Schleichera trijuga.</i>
Kumera	... <i>Gmelina arborea.</i>
Labheda	... <i>Cordia myra.</i>
Mahuū	... <i>Bassia latifolia.</i>
Makor	... <i>Zizyphus onoplia.</i>
Maursiri	... <i>Mimusops elengi.</i>
Mawali	... <i>Spathodea roxburghii.</i>
Nim	... <i>Melia India</i>
Pipal	... <i>Ficus religiosa.</i>
Rāmphal	... <i>Anona reticulata.</i>
Reonja	... <i>Acacia leucophleba.</i>
Sāgon	... <i>Tectona grandis.</i>
Saimara (Semel)	... <i>Bombax malabaricum.</i>
Salaiya, Sarrai	... <i>Boswellia serrata.</i>
Sejo	... <i>Lagerstroemia parviflora.</i>
Shisham	... <i>Dalbergia sissoo.</i>
Siras	... <i>Albizia lebbek.</i>
Sitāphal	... <i>Anona squamosa.</i>
Tendū	... <i>Diospyros tomentosa.</i>
Tuna	... <i>Cedrela toona.</i>
Umar	... <i>Ficus glomerata.</i>

## Grasses.

The different varieties of grass found here are *sain*, *paraea* (*Andropogon pertusus*), *gunar*, *kail*, *bhusaya*, *tolia*, *phula*, *kara*, *divea*, *gondara*, *murjana*, *kāns* (*Imperata spontanea*), *vadakas* (variety of *kāns*), *maujuri*, *jhunsa*, *phulara* or *phulkara* (*Ischaemum laxum*), *kush*, *dāb* or *darbha* (*Eragrostis cynosuroides*), *dūb* (*Cynodon dactylon*), *munj* (*Saccharum munja*). *Musayal* grass is met with on *mauta* soil, *junar* on *patrva*, and *padua* soils, while the rest grow in *rānkar*. *Musayal* is the best grass for fodder, as it strengthens cattle if regularly used.

The grass is cut in *Ashvin* after the *Dasahra*.

## Section IV.—Mines and Minerals.

(TABLE XII.)

Few minerals are found in the State. Iron is met with near Pirthipura. The ore is found within a depth of 15 feet. The iron stone is dug out and smelted locally, being reduced in small cylindrical brick furnaces, in which the temperature is kept up by means of hand bellows. The ore is broken into small pieces, washed and mixed with charcoal in the ratio of 3 to 8. Before commencing the process of smelting, charcoal is put into the furnace and heated. When the temperature has risen sufficiently, the mixture of iron ore and charcoal is introduced, and covered over with a layer of charcoal. The mixture is put in gradually, care being taken to keep the surface well covered with charcoal, lest the reduced iron should be oxidized. After the third addition of the mixture, the slag and iron is allowed to flow away below and collect in a reservoir. The iron is taken out with a forceps. It is then cut into pieces which are heated to whiteness and hammered into cylindrical shape for the market.

Each furnace can smelt three seers of iron at each firing, and the process is usually repeated twenty times a day, giving a total outturn of one and half maunds.

The mines are situated at the villages of Dhaukān and Mājāyara-Toria.

A State duty called *pumiya*, of eight annas per maund of iron produced is levied. The approximate cost of one cart and the seven labourers required for the work is Re. 1½ per day.

## Section V.—Arts and Manufactures.

(TABLE XI.)

## Weaving.

Except the ordinary coarse country cloth and blankets made in most villages, little weaving is carried on.

## Cloth printing.

Cloth printing is practised to a limited extent in Jatāra.

## Iron work.

The iron smelting industry has been already described. No articles of special note are manufactured, though formerly a considerable number of country guns were made at Barāgdon.

A State workshop is situated at Tikamgarh where a combined saw mill, lathe, planing machine and grinding mill are worked by a steam engine. The engine is now old and is not capable of driving all the machinery at once, and consequently one or two machines only are worked simultaneously.

State workshop.

### Section VI.—Commerce and Trade.

In former times owing to the absence of roads, excessive transit and other duties, and the disturbed condition of the country trade was conducted on a very small scale.

Conditions have improved considerably in the last 30 years, but there is still ample scope for expansion.

The principal exports are *ghī*, rice, *singhāra*, nuts, *zūra* (*cummin*), resins, honey, bee's wax, *chironji* (fruit of *Buchanania latifolia*), *guli* (fruit of *Bassia latifolia*), partially refined sugar, *binaula* (cotton seeds), *makuā* flowers, sesamum, horns and hides. Most of the exported articles are sent direct to Bombay, some going to Mau, 42 miles north, and Lalitpur, 36 miles east of Tikamgarh for export to Cawnpore. In winter traders from outside travel through the State with woollen articles for sale. Generally these traders belong to Bombay. Rice and other food grains are sent to Mau and Lalitpur.

Exports.

The chief imports are salt, sugar, piece-goods, dried fruit, yarn, silk, lace, gold and silver, thread, iron utensils, metals, tobacco, kerosine oil, spices, hemp, hardware, saltpetre, sulphur, opium, *bhāng*, *gānja* and cotton.

Imports.

Petty dealers purchase goods in Mau and Lalitpur, and sell them at Tikamgarh, to the cultivators. Cloth, yarn, iron, hemp, cotton, etc., are imported from Cawnpore. The chief market towns are Tikamgarh, Baldeogarh, Jatāra, Palera, Pirthipur, Nivāri, and Partābganj. Baniās of the Agarwāl and Parwāl (Jains) class are the principal traders. In some places Brāhmans and other castes trade in food grains. The trade in cloth lies generally in the hands of Parwāl (Jain) Baniās; the Parwāls, Lohiyās and Tamerās dealing in iron, copper and brass; and Chamārs in hides. The itinerant sellers in the State are Muhammadans.

Mechanism of trade.

Two main trade routes exist, one being the metalled road from Tikamgarh passing northwards *via* Jatāra to Mau (42 miles), and the other the metalled road from Tikamgarh to Lalitpur (36 miles) *via* Mahroni. Besides these roads a metalled road from Jhānsi to Mau passes through the Tahrauli *tahsil*, which the Midland section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway from Jhānsi to Mānikpur also traverses. The railway stations situated in the State are Orchhā, Telaraka and Arjār, to which, however, no great amount of traffic passes owing to want of road communication. Goods are carried to the

Trade routes.

railway in bullock carts. In parts traversed by metalled roads bullock carts are generally used, but petty dealers carry their goods on ponies or pack bullocks.

Shop-keepers are found in large villages only and are mostly Parwāl (Jain) Baniās.

The most important firms are those of Prāgdaś, Dīnūnūth, Kathaila and Rām Prashād Gulābraī.

Local firms.

WEIGHTS  
AND  
MEASURES,  
Precious  
stones.

Precious stones are weighed by the *rattī*.

$$\begin{matrix} 20 \text{ Bise} \\ 5 \text{ Chāwal} \end{matrix} \} = 1 \text{ Rattī.}$$

$$24 \text{ Rattīs} = 1 \text{ Tānka.}$$

The weights used are those of  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , and 2 *rattīs*. Weights are manufactured of stone.

Gold and  
silver.

Formerly these metals were weighed in *muhars*, now they are weighed in *Gajāshāhī* rupees and *tolas*.

$$83 \text{ Rattīs} = 1 \text{ Gajāshāhī rupee.}$$

$$80 \text{ Rattīs} = 1 \text{ Muhar.}$$

$$5 \text{ Rattīs} = 1 \text{ Ekannī (a one-anna piece in Gajāshāhī currency).}$$

$$17 \text{ Ekannīs} = 1 \text{ Kaldār (British) rupee.}$$

$$85 \text{ Gajāshāhī rupees} = 80 \text{ Kaldār rupees or 1 seer.}$$

Capacity.  
Liquids.

It is sixteen years since *Gajāshāhī* rupees replaced *muhars*. In measuring liquids the following table is used:—

$$1 \text{ Chhatāk} = \frac{1}{16} \text{ Seer.}$$

$$1 \text{ Adhpawa} = 2 \text{ Chhatāks.}$$

$$1 \text{ Pawa} = \frac{1}{4} \text{ Seer.}$$

$$1 \text{ Adhseer} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ Seer.}$$

$$1 \text{ Panseri} = 5 \text{ Seers.}$$

These measures are made either of copper or brass and are used for measuring liquids, such as *ghī*, oil, milk, etc.

Grain.

With grain, etc., the units are as below:—

$$2 \text{ Gajāshāhī pico} = 1 \text{ Takka.}$$

$$16 \text{ Takkas} = 1 \text{ Chauri.}^1$$

$$16 \text{ Chauris} = 1 \text{ Paili.}^2$$

$$20 \text{ Pailis} = 1 \text{ Mānī} = 1 \text{ gauna.}^3$$

$$100 \text{ Mānīs} = 1 \text{ Manāsa.}$$

$$100 \text{ Manāsas} = 1 \text{ Manyāso.}$$

Measures of  
length.

Length was formerly measured by the *hāt* or cubit. Now-a-days it is measured by the inch, foot and yard, with the additional unit called a *javaka*.

$$3 \text{ Javakas} = 1 \text{ inch.}$$

1. A *chauri* is a vessel made of wood or of copper cylindrical in shape.

2. A vessel similar to the *chauri*.

3. A *gauna* is the bag used in packing loads on the back of bullocks.

Cloth is measured by the *gaz* or yard of 16 *girāh*.

When articles are sold by number, the following units are employed :—

20 <i>Ikaīs</i>	= 1 <i>Kori</i> (a score).
5 <i>Ikaīs</i>	= 1 <i>Ganda</i> .
100 <i>Ikaīs</i>	= 1 <i>Senkada</i> .

Masonry is measured by the cubit foot usually, and earth-work by *phadiyas* or the ordinary load carried by an ass or buffalo, or such load as may be agreed on at the time.

Masonry.

Many standards for measuring surface exist in the State. Houses are usually measured in feet and inches, but in villages brick-layers' work is measured by a *hāt* or cubit. A standard *hāt* exists for this purpose, consisting of the hand (*hāth*) plus the breadth of the fist (*muñhi*) including the thumb (*angūha*). *Bighas* are measured by four different standards known as the *Jatāria-ki-dori*, *Mohangarh-ki-dori*, *Erachha-ki-dori*, and *Tehara-ka-ki-dori*. The *dori* is the rope used in measuring.

The *Jatāria-ki-dori*.—This *dori* is 1 chain, 75 *hāths* or 37½ yards. It is used in the *Jatāra talsil*.

*Mohangarh-ki-dori*.—This measures 95 *hāths* or 47½ yards in length.

*Erachha-ki-dori*.—This *dori* is named after Erachha village where it is employed. Its length is 105 *hāths* or 52½ yards.

*Teharaka-ki-dori*.—This is 85 *hāths* long or 42½ yards.

It is with these chains, each of which is made up of 20 equal links, that the lands in villages are measured.

A piece of land 1 *dori* long and 1 *dori* broad, forms one *bigha*.

20 <i>Biswānsi</i>	= 1 <i>Biswa</i> .
20 <i>Biswas</i>	= 1 <i>Bigha</i> ( $\frac{1}{6}$ acre).

In agricultural operations the area of the field weeded is estimated by the eye, the unit being 1 *kammal* or country blanket, and the wages are given in terms of *kammals*.

Agricultural operations.

The measure of time used is that of the *kachchi ghadiāl* which is divided into *pala*, *vipala* and *prahara*. In the State offices the European divisions of time into hours, minutes and seconds are used.

Measure of time.

Formerly the State official year began on the first day of the dark fortnight of *Asādh* (May) and ended on the 15th day of the light half of *Jeth* (June). Now the European year is adopted, the official year commencing on July 1st. The era followed commonly is the *Vikrama Samvat*. The year begins on the first day of *Asādh* and ends on the full moon in *Jeth*, but the months are reckoned according to the English calendar.

Official year

Thus the official year *Samvat* 1960 begins in *Asādh* on the first of July and ends on the full moon in *Jeth* in *Samvat* 1961. This period of twelve months is called *Samvat* 1960.

Although as a matter of fact Samvat 1960 closed, and 1961 began on the fifteenth day of the dark fortnight of *Chait* (March). With baniās the year begins on the fifteenth day of the dark fortnight of *Kārtik*.

### Section VII.—Means of Communication.

#### (TABLE XV.)

##### Railways.

The Jhansi-Mānikpur section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway traverses parts of the Orchhā and Tahrauli *tahsil*. The railway stations situated in the State are Orchhā, Arjār, Teharaka.

The railway though it only serves the out-kirts of the State greatly facilitated dealing with the famines of 1897 and 1905.

Prices in Tikamgarh and places within reach of the line have risen with the increased facility for export.

##### Roads (Table XV.).

No metalled roads existed before the succession of the present Chief. The metalled road from Tikamgarh to Khiria and on to Lalitpur (36 miles), and from Tikamgarh to Mau via Jatūra (42 miles), are the principal roads.

Wells have been dug at intervals along these roads for the convenience of travellers, and police *chaubis* established for their safe guard.

The Jhansi-Nowgong metalled road constructed and maintained by Government traverses the Tahrauli *tahsil*, and a metalled road runs from Tikamgarh to Digoda village, which is continued as an unmetalled road to Pirthipur and Orchhā. A short feeder metalled road connects Orchhā town with Orchhā railway station, a distance of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles. The following metalled roads are under contemplation :—

Tikamgarh to Baldeogarh and Kotrāghāt on the Dhasūn; Tikamgarh to Barāgaon joining the Sauger road; Lidhaura to Palera; Lidhaura to Tahrauli; and Pirthipur to Degerāh. The total mileage of metalled road in the State is 93, and of unmetalled road 257.

Imperial post offices have been established at Tikamgarh, Jatāra and Baldeogarh. No postal system existed until 1895, when the Darbār opened regular post offices. Postal centres were established at all *thānas*, and runners were appointed. Sixteen offices have been opened.

No telegraph offices have been established in the State except those at railway station. If it is necessary to send a telegram from Tikamgarh, it is sent to the Lalitpur telegraph office.

### Section VIII.—Famine.

#### (TABLE XXX.)

The usual cause of scarcity and famine is a failure of the rains. No regular record of early famines is extant, but the

following years are still remembered as those of distress or famine:—1868 called the *Pachisā* from the Samvat year 1925; 1877 or *Chantisā* (1934); and that of 1896-97. In 1868, though the *kharif* failed, rain fell late and saved the *rabi*, thus causing only partial famine. Attempts were made to give some relief, but nothing was done systematically and was, therefore, not very effective.

The third famine, that of 1897, was very severe, not only the *kharif* crops but also the *mahuā* failed, causing widespread distress. On this occasion every effort was made to afford relief. British officers were appointed to assist, and relief works were opened, and charitable relief distributed freely. These operations were effected at a cost of Rs. 3·7 lakhs on relief works, and of Rs. 62,000 in charitable relief, while Rs. 60,000 were remitted out of the land revenue demand, and Rs. 35,000 given in advance to cultivators. Such works as the construction of buildings, tanks, canals, wells, *bāndhs*, and the repair of public buildings were opened as relief works.

Famine of  
1897;

An expenditure of three lakhs was sanctioned for this purpose, and Rs. 51,000 were spent on irrigation works, which included 321 wells, 74 *bāndhs*, and 39 tanks being constructed.

Advances were freely made to cultivators, for the construction of tanks, wells and *bāndhs*. Great leniency was shown in recovering advances of grain issued for seed to cultivators from the State stores, which, according to the rules, ought to be recovered within the period of one year. The same leniency was shown in recovering the revenue, a sum of Rs. 7·62 lakhs being finally remitted. *Pardā-nashī* in women were given work and all those who could not work were given doles of grain daily from the State granaries. The total cost of the relief operations was about 13 lakhs.

In 1905 famine again appeared, though not with the same severity as in 1897. Every effort was made to relieve distress, a sum of Rs. 1·2 lakhs being spent on relief works, and Rs. 13,000 in charitable relief, while three lakhs of revenue demand were suspended, and Rs. 26,000 given out in advances to cultivators. The total cost amounted to about 2·5 lakhs on unrecoverable expenditure.

Famine of  
1905.

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

(TABLES XVI TO XXVII.)

#### Section I.—Administration.

The Chief,  
Madār-ul-  
Muhāmī.

The administration is carried on by the Chief personally assisted by his two Diwāns who are in joint charge of the department known as the *Madār-ul-Muhāmī*, "Centre of affairs."

The Diwāns,

One *dīcān*, besides dealing jointly with the general administration, has special charge of the Military Department. The *dīcāns* refer to His Highness all matters of importance requiring special sanction.

The Sessions Judge is the head of the Judicial Department and refers all matters to the Chief direct.

Departments,

The administration is thus controlled by three officers under the two *dīcāns* and the Sessions Judge, these officials being in direct communication with the Huzūr Darbār office, presided over by the Chief personally.

The Sessions Judge is the highest judicial authority next to the Chief himself. All appeals from the subordinate criminal and civil courts are heard in his court, the presiding judge exercising powers similar to those of a Sessions Court in British India. Appeals from the court are heard in the Huzūr Darbār, the High Court of the State.

The subordinate departments are given below:—

*The Rājkiyavibhāg* (ruling or controlling department).—In this section are included those departments which deal with the Chief's personal affairs, and the up-keep of his palaces, establishment, etc. This section falls into several sub-divisions, *khāsgat*, dealing with Chief's personal comfort; *deorhi*, dealing with the palaces and personal estates ; *makhrut-khāna*, dealing with temples and charity; *kotha-baiutāt*, dealing with expenses of feeding; *jāmdūr-khāna* or ward-robe, dealing with Chief's attire ; the *zargar-khāna*, dealing with jewels, etc., and other similar subdivisions such as the *fil-khāna* or elephant stables, *baggi-khāna* or coach house, *khus-khāna* or mews for hawks. The *Shāshana-vibhāg* or administrative section ; *shāshana*, literally a decree or order. In this section are included those departments which deal with the management of the State. They are divided into the *Huzūr Darbār* or Chief's office including the Darbār or *Madār-ul-Muhāmī* (*dīcān's* office) ; *Judicial*, dealing with the administration of justice, police and jails, in charge of the Sessions Judge ; the *Senāribhāg* or Military Department, dealing with the State forces, in charge of one of the *dīcāns* ; the *Revenue*

*Department*, dealing with revenue administration and the work of the *tahsildārs* and other district officials, the up-keep of forts or *kilājāt*, administration of customs and excise (*chabūtrājāt*), of *zakirājāt*, or State granaries and *gulzār-khāna* or State gardens and forests. The *tāmirāt* or Public Works Department, dealing with the up-keep of State buildings and roads. The *Treasury* and *Accounts* office, the *Kothī pratipālak* (literary cherishing) for making advances of salaries and loans to State employés establishment, medical and educational.

The official language in the State is local Hindi in which all revenue records are kept, while Urdu is employed in the judicial proceedings and in correspondence with the Political Agent.

The State is divided into five *tahsils* with headquarters at Tikamgarh, Baldeogarh, Jatāra, Orchhā and Tahraulī. The isolated *tahsil* of Pahārsinghpura is situated in the centre of the Aurangābād *tāluka* of Hyderābād State. The largest *tahsil* is that of Jatāra with an area of 602 square miles, the smallest that of Tahraulī with 237. A *tahsildār* is in charge of each *tahsil*, and deals with all matters connected with the revenue, civil and criminal administration of his charge. These *tahsildārs* have the powers of an Assistant Collector of the second class in revenue matters in which they are directly under the Revenue Department.

According to their ability and experience *tahsildārs* are granted second or third class magisterial powers.

The Chief is the final authority of reference and appeal in all administrative and judicial matters, and exercises powers of life and death over his subjects.

In every village the *zamīndār* or *mahāte* who holds the village revenues in farm is considered the head of the village. In some villages there are several *mahātes*, in which case a headman is chosen from among them, who decides petty disputes and quarrels with the help of a *panchāyat* formed of people of position.

Next in importance to the *zamīndārs* is the *patwārī* who keeps the accounts and records of the village and notes all particulars concerning the land and village rights; he is a State servant receiving a salary from the Darbār. He prepares all the revenue registers and submits them to the Darbār. The villagers being generally illiterate, the influence of the *patwārī* in a village is considerable, and there are few matters in which he is not consulted.

#### Section II.—Law and Justice.

(TABLES XVI AND XVII.)

No regular courts or any fixed system for the administration of justice existed before the succession of the present Chief.

Official Language.

Administrative Divisions  
(Table VIII and Chapter IV).

Village Autonomy.

Early days.

Punishments were varied, the commonest being fines, which were imposed for most crimes. Capital punishment was rarely inflicted except in the case of dacoity and of murder when the person killed was a man of importance or of high caste.

The cutting off of the nose was usually inflicted for the crime of adultery.

**Present system.** The courts are now fashioned more or less on the lines of British India, the Criminal Procedure Code and the Penal Code being used as guides. In civil suits the old *panchayat* system, in which a deliberative committee considers a case and submits it with its remarks for the Judge's orders, is still in vogue.

**Legislation.** Regular legislative measures are not passed, but rules and regulations are issued by the Darbār which have the force of law.

**Civil courts.** The lowest courts are those of the *tahsildārs* which deal with suits up to Rs. 50 in value.

Above them come the *munsif's* court, the *nāzim's* court, the *adālat* and Sessions Judge's court with powers similar to those of a *munsif*, Subordinate Judge, and the District Judge, respectively in British India, and lastly the Chief's court which is the final appellate court.

**Criminal courts.** The lowest criminal courts are those of the *tahsildārs* who are Magistrates of the third or second class, being respectively empowered to award imprisonment for 1 month and 6 months, and a fine amounting to Rs. 50 and Rs. 200.

The superior courts are those of the Magistrate of the first class, the District Magistrate and Sessions Judge who enjoy the powers laid down in the Criminal Procedure Code of British India.

The Sessions Judge's decisions on cases involving capital punishment require confirmation by the Chief.

Appeals lie from the subordinate courts through the superior courts to the Chief. The highest tribunal is that of the Chief, which is a final court of appeal only.

### Section III.—Finance.

#### (TABLES XVIII AND XIX.)

The State accounts office is known as the *Sadr Kachahri*. The *tahsildārs* submit their accounts to the Revenue Department, which together with all other departments sends its accounts to this office for audit and check.

The revenue officer also formerly sent in accounts of land revenue to the *Sadr Kachahri*, but since 1899 these accounts have been left in the hands of the Revenue Department. The Treasury forms part of *Sadr Kachahri*.

**Sources of revenue.** The total normal revenue of the State is 7·4 lakhs British currency besides 1·6 lakh assigned to the *jāgīrdārs*.

## Section IV.—Land Revenue.

(TABLE XX.)

The present system of collecting the land revenue is to all intents and purposes what it was in the days of Bir Singh Dev.

System of collection.

The revenue year begins in the month of *Asādh*. Formerly the year ran according to the Hindu months, but now the revenue year follows the English months from July to June.

The land revenue was up to 1876, held entirely in *khālsā*, all cultivators dealing direct with State officials. Since then, however, most of *tahsīls* have been farmed out. The farmers are known as *nambardārs* and are responsible for the assessed revenue of their holdings. The revenue demand is fixed by the State, and no more than the assessed amount can be levied by the *nambardārs*.

Where villages are still *khālsā* the *tahsildār* collects the revenue through the *patwāris* and headmen.

The first settlement was made in 1877, a second settlement in 1881, and a third settlement in 1892.

Settlement (Table XX).

When land is improved the assessment is raised. *Pattas* (leases) are issued by the Revenue Department for all holdings.

A cultivator can be dispossessed of his land only when he has mortgaged or sold it to another person, or when he fails to pay the revenue demand. Revenue is fixed according to the quality of the land and the kind of crop produced.

The present demand is 4·2 lakhs British currency.

The incidence varies in the different *tahsīls*; but amounts on an average to Re. 1·3 per acre of cultivated land and 9 annas per acre on the total area. It rises in Baldeogarh to Re. 1·2 per acre of cultivated land, while in Tikamgarh it is only 12 annas 7 pies.

Incidence (Table XX).

The rates are given in the table below :—

Rates.

Soil.	Maximum rent per <i>bigha</i> .	<i>Dry land.</i>			Minimum rent per <i>bigha</i> .
		Rs.	A.	P.	
Patrua		0	8	0	0 4 0
Parua		1	1	0	0 8 0
Mauta		2	8	0	1 8 0
		<i>Irrigated.</i>			
Rānkar		1	4	0	1 0 0
Parua		2	0	0	1 4 0

For land on which sugarcane is grown the minimum assessment is Re. 1·8-0, and the maximum Rs. 3 per *bigha*.

In former days half the *kharif* produce, and one-third of the *rabi* was taken in kind in satisfaction of the revenue demand, but all revenue is now paid in cash.

Tenures  
(Tables VIII  
and XXXI).

The land is held under two main heads, *khulsā* and *jagirdār*. In the first case the revenues go to the State, while in the latter case they are alienated. The *khulsā* land is in part managed by the Darbār direct, but is mainly farmed out to contractors who are responsible for the assessed revenue.

The total *khulsā* area amounts to 1,614 square miles, or 77 per cent. of the whole area, the alienated area being 466 square miles. The alienated area is held under various forms of tenure.

#### Section V.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

##### (TABLE XXI.)

The chief sources of miscellaneous revenue are customs or *bayāi* and excise or *abkāri*.

Excise and customs duties are collected at out-posts or *chabūtras* as they are called. The miscellaneous revenue includes the *abkāri* revenue from the sale of liquor, the *bayāi* or weighing tax and import and export taxes. The out-posts are under the control of the *tahsīldārs*. The Municipality at Tikamgarh manages the *chabūtra* in the town.

**Customs.** The *bayāi* or weighing tax is farmed out, being sold by auction yearly, amounting to about Rs. 32,300.

**Liquor.** The only liquor drunk is that distilled from the flowers of the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*).

The right to distil and vend liquor is sold to contractors who supply one or more villages. These contracts are sold by auction yearly. The duties levied are a *sāyār* duty on *mahuā* flowers of 1 annas per maund, a *bayāi* or weighing tax of 1 anna per maund and a *sāyār* tax of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  anna per maund of liquor distilled.

The liquor sold is of three qualities called *do-atīsha* sold at Re. 1 per bottle, *māmuli* sold at 8 annas per bottle, and *dāru* sold at 4 annas per bottle.

The revenue from this source amounts to Rs. 17,000 a year, giving an incidence of 10 pies per head of population. No foreign liquors are drunk in the State.

**Opium.** No poppy is grown in the State. The income derived from imports of opium amounts to Rs. 1,200 a year. An import tax of one rupee being levied on every maund.

No hemp is cultivated, but Rs. 1,000 a year are derived from import taxes on *gānja*, *bhang* and *charas*.

**Stamps.** Stamped papers for judicial purposes are sold through licensed salesmen who receive a percentage on the sale.

Some years ago postal stamps were introduced, but they have never been used by the people.



receives Rs. 50, a *Jamādār* Rs. 40, a *Kot-Dafādār* Rs. 30, a *Dafādār* Rs. 25, and a *Lance-Dafādār* Rs. 24.

The sowārs act as orderlies and escort to the Chief. They are also sent to carry messages to distant places.

#### Irregulars.

*Rām Gol Irregulars*.—This is a body of irregular infantry which has been in existence since the time of Rājā Vikramājīt. Formerly only Rājputs were admitted to it, but of late it has been recruited from all classes. A sepoy receives Rs. 8, and an officer Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 a month. This body provides guards for the Chief's palace and elsewhere, and march before him when he goes out in State.

*Body-guard*.—Formerly the body-guard and *Rām Gol* were one and the same corps, but since 1869 they have been separate. The body-guard wears native dress consisting of a green coloured *angarkha*, a yellow *sarai*, and *pāg-pichhora* or turban, and carry a country made gun, *talwār* and *katār* (a dagger). A *Subahdār* and *Jamādār* are the only officers in the corps. The officers always wear necklaces of gold when accompanying the Mahrājā. They carry a red flag. Appointments are made only with the personal sanction of the Mahrājā, all being trusted and many hereditary servants of good family. The pay of a man ranges from Rs. 5 to Rs. 9 per mensem.

*Gusāins*.—The *Gusāins* (*Gosicāmin*, “master of the cows” or “master of the senses”) are nominally religious mendicants usually of the Shaivite sect. In the 18th century they distinguished themselves as warriors, forming large bodies under their leaders known as *Mahants*. A large corps of these men was attached to Daulat Rao Sindhia’s army.<sup>1</sup> The most famous of these *Gusāin* leaders was Himmat Bahādur who allied himself with Shamsher and Ali Bahādur. This corps is known as the *Akhāda*, only *Gusāins* being enlisted in it. The following are the different sections of the force :—

*Anand Akhāda*.—These men are all sun worshippers.

*Juna Akhāda*.—Bajrang, Bhairav and Guru Mahrāj are the deities considered specially sacred by this section.

*Amān Akhāda*.—Its members worship Ganesh.

The uniform of the *Akhādas* consists of a *pagrī* of the colour of the *gerū* (an ochreous clay),<sup>2</sup> a *sāfa*, *angarkha*, white *sarai*, and a *patka* or waist band. They also carry a rosary of *Rudrāksha* berries (*Eleocarpus janitrus*) round their necks and apply *babbūti* or ash to their foreheads.

Every section of the *Akhāda* has its own flag which is carried in front of the section, surmounted by a plume. Every man

1. Broughton's *Letters from a Mahratta Camp*. (Constable) p. 96.

2. This ochreous colour is specially favoured by Siva and is always worn by his devotees.



In the *Sadr madarsa* or High School at Tikamgarh, Sanskrit, Persian and English are taught, and it is affiliated to the University of Allahābād up to the Entrance Standard. The High School also prepares candidates for the Middle Examination of the Allahābād University.

The system followed is the same as that in aided Government schools. The rules and regulations observed being those of the University of Allahābād. The number of classes is 10, and the daily average attendance of students is 157.

#### Staff.

The staff consists of four English teachers, including a head master, and a deputy inspector for the village schools, besides eight other *pandits* and *maulvis*.

The village schools teach only Hindi and arithmetic, mensuration, history and geography in the vernacular. His Highness takes great interest in education, and is always willing to help these institutions in every way.

#### Girls' School.

A Girls' School was started in 1875, and was the first school of its kind to be opened in Bundelkhand. The girls are encouraged in by scholarships and other concessions. They are taught Hindi reading and writing, a little arithmetic, and also sewing. His Highness takes a great interest in the work, and it was due entirely to his persistent endeavours that popular prejudice was sufficiently overcome to permit of the school being opened. The real difficulty lies in the unwillingness of parents, who do not pay attention to the education of daughters. The school is held in a separate building, due attention is paid to custom, every possible care being taken to preserve the *parda* system. But the higher classes of Hindus are still prejudiced against it.

The number of girls was, in 1881, 20; in 1891, 38; in 1901, 48, and in 1904, 15.

All education given by the State is free, no fees of any kind being levied, while boys are even supplied with books free and their expenses are defrayed when they go up for the University examinations. The total expenditure on education is about Rs. 3,800.

#### Section XI.—Medical.

##### (TABLE XXVII.)

Besides the *raidyas* and *hakīms* employed at the chief town and in the districts one hospital has been opened at the capital in charge of a native hospital assistant. Vaccination is also carried out in the State.

#### Section XII.—Surveys.

No survey of the whole State has as yet been made.

CHAPTER IV.  
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS  
AND  
GAZETTEER.

The State is divided into five administrative divisions, of which the main statistics are summarised below :—

Serial number.	Name.	Area in square miles.	NUMBER OF		Population in 1901.	AREA IN ACRES.		Land revenue in Gajishahi currency.
			Towns.	Villages.		Total.	Cultivated.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Tikamgarh...	527	1	159	77,990	337,366	159,702	200,000
2	Baldeogarh...	357	...	116	75,005	228,748	113,559	111,000
3	Jatāra ...	602	...	190	76,781	384,857	182,707	245,000
4	Orchhā ...	357	...	165	53,585	228,518	96,450	128,000
5	Tahranli ...	237	...	108	38,273	151,614	83,947	150,000
TOTAL ...		2,080	1	(a) 738	321,634	1,331,103	636,365	834,000

**Tikamgarh tahsil.**—The headquarters *tahsil* lying in the south of the State between 24° 33' and 25° 5' N., and 78° 42' and 79° 4' E., with an estimated area of 527 square miles.

It is bounded on the north by the Orchhā *tahsil*, on the east by the Baldeogarh *tahsil*, on the south by the Damoh District of the Central Provinces, and on the west by the Jhansi District of the United Provinces.

Save for small isolated ranges of no great height, no hills lie in the *tahsil*. The Jamani, Bargi, and Jamdār, are the only streams of importance.

There are several tanks round the chief town and at Nadanwāra, Warana, Bamauri, Kumheri, Mohangarh and Kāri.

This *tahsil* was, in early days, a *tappa* in the Jatāra *tahsil* and was known as Tehrī and Tikamgarh. It became of importance in 1783 when Rājū Vikramājīt made Tikamgarh his

(a) Since the Census of 1901, thirty-two new villages have been brought upon the Register.

capital. Since then it has been a separate administrative division.

The population was in 1901, 77,990 ; males 39,848, females 38,142. The density was 147 per square mile; occupied houses 14,195.

Classified by religions there were 71,565 or 92 per cent. Hindus, 2,600 Jains, 3,234 Musalmāns and 591 Animists.

The total area amounts to about 337,366 acres ; of this 262,510 acres are *khālsā* and 74,856 alienated in *jāgīrs*, etc.

Of the total area, 159,702 acres or 47 per cent. are cultivated, 31,973 acres being irrigated.

Uncultivated land occupies 177,664 acres, of which 85,939 acres are capable of cultivation, 20,210 are under forest, 30,162 are rated as grazing land, and 41,353 as unculturable waste.

A *tahsildār* is in charge with his headquarters at Tikamgarh being assisted by *kilādārs* at Mohangarh, Digaura and Astaun.

The *tahsīl* contains 159 villages, of which 68 are held in *jāgīr*.

Besides the schools at Tikamgarh one village school has been opened at Digaura.

No railways touch this *tahsīl*. The metalled roads in the *tahsīl* are those from Tikamgarh to Lalitpur (36 miles), Tikamgarh to Jatāra (25 miles), and to Pirthipur (22 miles).

The revenue amounts to 2 lakhs.

**Baldeogarh Tahsīl** —The *tahsīl* of Baldeogarh is situated to the south-east of Orchha between 24° 26' and 24° 58' north latitude, and 78° 28' and 79° 2' east longitude, with an estimated area of 357 square miles.

It is bounded on the north by the Tikamgarh *tahsīl*, on the east by Pannā and Bijāwar, on the south by Pannā and the Shūhgarh and Damoh Districts.

The most important river in the *tahsīl* is the Dhasān, flowing from the south. It forms the eastern boundary of the *tahsīl*.

For historical account see general account.

According to the Census of 1901, the population of the *tahsīl* amounted to 75,005 persons ; males 38,229, females 36,776, giving a ratio of 96 females to 100 males. Density 210 per square mile; occupied houses 13,193.

Classified by religions, Hindus numbered 72,223, Jains 1,569, Musalmāns 1,114, and Animists 99.

The total estimated area is 357.39 square miles or 228,748 acres. Of this 123,987 acres are *khālsā*, and 104,761 acres alienated in land grants. Of the total area 113,559 acres or 49 per cent. are cultivated, 42,498 acres being irrigated.

Of the remainder 54,056 are culturable, 17,928 acres are under jungle, 19,006 under grass, and 24,199 waste.

The *tahsīl* contains 116 villages, out of which 68 are alienated in *jāgīrs*, the rest (48) being *khālsā*. The headquarters of the *tahsīl* are at Baldeogarh. It was formerly called "Bāndh," but since the construction of the fort by Mahārājā Vikramājīt it has been named Baldeogarh. For administrative purposes it is divided into four sub-divisions, Baldeogarh, Majna, Barāgaon, and Pacher (or Purushottamgarh). A *kilādār* resides at each of these places.

A *tahsīldār* is in charge of the whole *tahsīl*. He has a *nāib-tahsīldār* and a *kānungs* to assist him.

The *tahsīldār* is subordinate to the first class magistrate at Tikamgarh. He can also entertain civil suits up to Rs. 50 in value.

A Hindī school has been established at Baldeogarh, and teaches up to the Upper Primary Standard. The schoolmaster at Baldeogarh also carries on the duties of postmaster at the Imperial and State post offices.

The police and *chaukidārs* in the *tahsīl* number 63 men under three sub-inspectors, who control *thānas* at Baldeogarh, majna and Barāgaon. This gives one man to every five square miles and 1,056 persons. Besides these men the sepoys attached to the different forts are called upon to perform police duties when necessary.

An Imperial post office has been established at Baldeogarh. State offices are located at Baldeogarh, Barāgaon and Majna.

No metalled roads traverse the *tahsīl*. Fair weather roads lead from Tikamgarh to Baldeogarh, with branches from Baldeogarh to Kotraghāt on the Dhasān in the north and Deorānghāt in the south. Another road leads from Tikamgarh to Barāgaon. It is proposed to metal these roads.

The land revenue of the *tahsīl* is 1·1 lakh.

**Jatāra Tahsīl.**—The *tahsīl* lies in the east of the State between 24° 53' and 25° 18' N., and 78° 54' and 79° 26' E., with an area of about 602 square miles.

It is bounded on the north by the Mau District of the United Provinces, on the south by the Baldeogarh *tahsīl*, on the east by the Dhasān river which separates it from the Garrauli *jāgīr* and on the west by the Orchhā and Tikamgarh *tahsīls*. It was in former days a part of the Bāndh (Baldeogarh) *pārgana*. Jatāra being a sub-division or *haveli* with Siaori, Lahchura.

Tehrī, Garh, Kundār, etc., as other sub-divisions. In Prithvi Singh's time it contained 1,099 villages and had a revenue of 13 lakhs. These are given in the appended list :—

Serial No.	NAME OF TAPPAS.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES.			Full revenue.
		Total.	Original.	Nominal (Dūkh).	
1	Bāndh	149	134	15	Rs. 138,617
2	Jatāra bavelit.	200	170	30	„ 159,802
3	Siaori	149	143	6	„ 238,759
4	Lahekhura	190	160	30	„ 410,564
5	Tehrī	47	45	2	„ 38,961
6	Teharka	149	140	9	„ 141,981
7	Garh	142	137	5	„ 116,965
8	Kundār or Kurār <sup>2</sup> .	73	62	11	„ 55,741
TOTAL ...		1,099	991	108	„ 13,01,393

On the east some short ranges of hills lie of no great elevation. The only large river is the Dhasān which flows along the western border ; other local streams are the Sapru, Ur, Sāndni, Jamca and Sursena. The *tahsil* is rich in wells, lakes and *wers* (*bāoris*).

This fact is preserved in a proverb which runs :—

*Nauso wer nausāsi kua, chhappan tāl Jatāra hua.*

*Bāoris, nine hundred ; wells, eighty-nine ; tanks, fifty-six are in Jatāra.*

The history is given under Jatāra village.

The *tahsil* had in 1901 a population of 76,781 persons ; males 39,621, females 37,160. Density was 127 per square mile. Classified by religions, Hindus numbered 73,874 or 96 per cent., Jains 808, Musalmāns 2,038, Animists 61; occupied houses 13,439.

The total estimated area amounts to 384,857 acres, of which 351,182 are *khālsā* and 33,675 *jāgīr*, etc. Of the total area 182,707 acres are cultivated or about 47 per cent.; the

1. Jhatār of Abul Fazl (?). Blochmann—*Ain.*, II, 188.

2. Kidar of Abul Fazl (?). *ibid.*

irrigated area amounts to 34,382 acres. Of the remainder 27,611 acres are under jungle, 31,417 are pasture land, 59,696 are culturable but not under cultivation, and 83,426 are waste.

The *tahsīl* is under a *tahsīldār* who lives at Jatāra. Formerly Palera was also a *tahsīl*, but it has been amalgamated with Jatāra since 1901.

The *tahsīl* contains 190 villages, of which 37 are *jāgīr*. Customs stations are established at Jatāra, Bamauri, Chandaira, and Lidhaura, granaries (*zakirājāt*) at Jatāra, Bamauri, Lidhaura and Palera, and police stations at Jatāra, Lidhaura, Palera and Bamauri. The police force consists of 3 Sub-Inspectors and 147 of all ranks, giving one policeman to four square miles and 508 persons.

No railways traverse the *tahsīl*, the nearest station on any line being Mau on the Jhānsi-Mānikpur Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, 18 miles from Jatāra.

A metalled road runs from Tikamgarh to Jatāra (25 miles), and on to Mau railway station in the United Provinces (18 miles). Short sections of road also run to Lidhaura and Palera.

An Imperial post office is located at Jatāra.

The revenue of the *tahsīl* is 2·4 lakhs

**Orchhā Tahsīl.**—This *tahsīl* lies in the north-west of the State between 25° 3' and 25° 2' N., and 78° 30' and 68° 58' E., with an estimated area of 357·03 square miles.

It is bounded on the north by the Jhānsi District and the Tahraulī *tahsīl*, on the east by the *tahsīls* of Tahraulī and Jatāra and the Mau District of the United Provinces, on the south by the Bargi river and the Tikamgarh *tahsīl*, and on the west by the Jhānsi District. The villages of Jair and Kisthaun belonging to the Jhānsi District lie within the *tahsīl*.

Only small ranges of no great height lie here and there about the *tahsīl*. The only important river is the Betwā on which the old town of Orchhā stands; other minor streams are the Bargi, Bānda and Garāri.

The Betwā here breaks through seven channels called the Satdhāra, of which the origin is poetically ascribed to seven of the Orchhā Chiefs in honour of whose achievements they are supposed to have started flowing :—

*Pahlī bhari Arjun Dīmān ne,*  
*Dūjī bhari jo Mughallan ke māre.*  
*Tijī bhari Partāpsu Rudra ne,*  
*Chauthī Bhārtī Chanda hakare.*

*Pancham pāñch bharī,  
Madhu Shāh ne shashtam Dulha Rāba dubāre.  
Sāhib sūrat ke sangrām bharī,  
Satdhāre ki sāt hu dhāre.*

The first channel was caused to flow by Dīmān Arjun, the second by he who slew the Mughals, the third by Partāp Rudra, the fourth by Bhārtī Chand, the fifth by Panclam, the sixth by Madhu (kar) Shāh and the last by Rāi Dulhā.

There are many tanks in the *tahsīl*, the finest being those at Bir Sāgar and Jairon.

The history being that of the State need not be touched on here.

The population according to the Census of 1901 was 53,585, males 28,205, females 25,380. The density was 150 persons to the square mile; occupied houses 8,204. Classified by religions there were 51,941 or 97 per cent. Hindus, 727 Jains, 701 Musalmāns, and 213 Animists.

The total area as estimated amounts to 228,518 acres, of which 188,291 acres are *khālsā* and 40,227 are alienated in *jāgīrs*, etc.

Of the total area 96,450 acres are cultivated, 29,164 being irrigated; 65,737 acres are culturable but not cultivated, of which 25,352 acres are grazing land, and 40,623 unculturable soil: forest occupies 25,718 acres.

The cultivated area thus amounts to about 40 per cent. of the *tahsīl*.

A *tahsīldār* is in charge whose headquarters are at Orchhā, he is assisted by a *nāib-tahsīldār* who lives at Pirthipur. The *tahsīl* formerly consisted of two parts, Orchhā and Pirthipur. In 1901 Pirthipur was made into a *nāib-tahsīl* and combined for administrative purposes, under the *tahsīldār* of Orchhā.

The *tahsīl* now contains 165 villages, of which 30 lie in *jāgīrs*; the *khālsā* villages are in charge of 40 *pātrāris*. Two Customs Out-posts, one at Orchhā and the other at Pirthipur; two State grain stores (*zakirājāt*) and two police stations at the same places are located in the *tahsīl*. The police force consists of two Sub-Inspectors stationed at Orchhā and Pirthipur, and a force of 84 of all ranks; there are also *chaukīs* at Karkigarh and Chakarpur. The ratio stands at one policeman to six square miles and 623 persons.

The Jhānsi-Mānikpur branch of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway traverses the *tahsīl* with a station at Orchhā.

The metalled road from Jhānsi to Mai passes through the north of the *tahsīl*. A partially metalled road leads via Pirthipur to Tikamgarh, while a short feeder, 3 miles long, leads from Orchhā village to the railway station. No Imperial post offices

have been opened in this *tahsīl*. The State *dāk* is managed by the police.

The revenue of the *tahsīl* amounts to 1·2 lakhs.

**Tahrauli Tahsīl.**—This *tahsīl* is situated between 25° 13' and 25° 37' N., and 78° 48' and 79° 19' E., with an estimated area of 237 square miles. It lies in the north of the State and is much cut by intervening portions of British India.

It is bounded on the north by the Jhānsi District and the petty States of Dhurwai, Bijna and Tori-Fatehpur, on the east and west by the Jhānsi District, and on the south by the Orchhā *tahsīl*.

There are no hills of any importance. The only large streams are the Betwā and Karan; many small *nālas* also cross the district. The tanks of importance are those at Kundav, Tahrauli and Asāti.

The *tahsīl* lies in a level plain, the soil being of the *mār* class, especially in the northern portion, while red soil, and *parua* are met with in the south.

It originally formed the Teharka *tappa* in the Jatāra (Islāmābād) *tahsīl*. It is divided, for administrative purposes, into two sub-divisions, Nivāri and Tahrauli. The headquarters of the whole were formerly at Nivāri in State of Tahrauli.

According to the Census of 1901, the population of the *tahsīl* amounted to 38,273 persons; males 19,815, females 18,458, with 6,995 occupied houses. The density of population is 161 per square mile, and the ratio of females to males as 93 to 100.

Classified by religions, Hindus number 36,744, Jains 180, Musalmāns 1,158 and the Animists 191.

The total area is 151,614 acres, of which about 25,366 are alienated in *jāgirs*, and 126,248 *khālsā*. Of the total area 83,947 acres or 55 per cent. are cultivated, 10,526 acres being irrigated. The uncultivated area amounts to 67,667, of which 22,835 are culturable, 15,280 under pasture, 15,066 under jungle, and the rest waste land.

The *tahsīl* is in general charge of a *tahsīldār* with headquarters at Tahrauli, but is, for administrative purposes, divided into two sub-divisions, Tahrauli and Nivāri, composed of 108 villages. Each sub-division is again sub-divided as below:—

Tahrauli	(1)	Tahrauli.
	(2)	Dhawāri.
	(3)	Kundār.
Nivāri	(4)	Nivāri.
	(5)	Thauna.
	(6)	Pathārām.

A *kilādār* in charge resides in each place and works under the *tahsīldār*. A sub-overseer at Tahrauli supervises the public works of the *tahsīl*. The chief judicial authority is the magistrate of the first class, the *tahsīldār* having second class magisterial powers. In civil suits the *tahsīldār* exercises the powers of a *munsif* and hears cases up to the value of Rs. 50.

The police and *chaukīdārs* number 65 men under a Sub-Inspector, with *thānas* at Tahrauli and Nivāri. A State Primary School is maintained at Nivāri.

The villages in the *tahsīl* number 108, of which 25 are held in *jāgīr*.

The Jhānsi-Mānikpur Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway crosses the *tahsīl* for 10 miles with stations at Teharka and Arjār. The Burwa-Sūgar station in the Jhānsi District is also largely used. The Jhānsi-Nowgong and Jhānsi-Garotha metalled roads traverse the *tahsīl*. A metalled road is to be constructed from Pirthipur to Tahrauli via Nivāri.

The revenue is 1·5 lakhs.

#### GAZETTEER.

**Ahar**, *tahsīl* Baldeogarh.—A village situated in 24° 44' N., and 79° 5' E., at a distance of about 4 miles west of Baldeogarh. It is evidently an old village said to have been populated by the Jamālpur Ahirs, which was once an important Jain centre. Many broken Jain images are scattered round it. A tank of the Chandellā days with a fine dam stands here. Population, according to the Census of 1901, amounted to 1,161 persons; males 592, females 569; occupied houses 180.

**Asāti**, *tahsīl* Tahrauli.—A village situated in 25° 24' N., and 78° 52' E., two miles north of the Jhānsi-Nowgong road. A tank stands in the village, and an old fort now quite deserted. The village was originally assigned in *jāgīr* by Mahārājā Rudra Pratāp to the descendants of his son, Kunwar Jait Singh, who are called Asātiwūlas. Population amounted in 1901 to 213 persons; males 103, females 110; occupied houses 31.

**Astaun**, *tahsīl* Tikamgarh.—A village lying eight miles south of Tikamgarh on the Jamdār is 24° 38' N., and 78° 49' E. A small fort in charge of a *kilādār* is situated here. An annual fair is held at Partābganj, and Kunda Dev, close by the village in *Phāgun*. The population of the village consists chiefly of Brāhmans, Kāyasthas and Lodis. Population (1901) 1,214 persons; 606 males, 608 females, and 215 occupied houses.

**Baldeogarh**, *tahsīl* Baldeogarh.—Headquarters of the *tahsīl* of the same name situated in 24° 46' N. and, 79° 7' E. This village was formerly called Bāndh, but after the

fort was constructed by Mahārājā Vikramājit it was called by its present name of Baldeogarh. This fort is a very fine specimen of its class and one of the most picturesque in Bundelkhand. A large tank called the *Gwālsāgar* stands by the village. Bāndh was formerly one of the *tappas* of the Jatāra *pargana* with 149 villages in it, and a revenue of Rs. 1·4 lakh. Imperial and State post offices, and the *tahsīl*, forest, customs and stores (*zakīrātī*) offices are situated in the village. Population in 1901 amounted to 1,923 persons ; males 947, females 976 ; occupied houses 431.

**Bamauri**, *tahsīl* Jatāra.—A village situated in 25° 8' N. and 79° 6' E., 11 miles from Jatāra. A small fort stands in the village which contains a police station, customs out-post, school and State post office. Population (1901) 1,405 persons ; 731 males, 674 females ; occupied houses 327.

**Barāgaon**, *tahsīl* Baldeogarh.—A village said to have been populated some 500 years ago. It is situated in 24° 34' N. and 79° 2' E., north of the Dhasān river at a place called Sunda-hal-Mau where the Umrār *nāla* joins the Dhasān. A *kilādār* is in charge. The population in 1901 amounted to 1,790 persons ; including 902 males, and 888 females, with 403 occupied houses. It is proposed to construct a metalled road from Tikamgarh to Barāgaon.

**Barana**, *tahsīl* Tikamgarh.—A village situated 24 miles north of Tikamgarh in 25° 3' N., and 78° 53' E. It is stated to have been first founded by Lodis. A very large lake lies between this village, and Nadanwāra from which a small canal was cut in the famine of 1905, and it is hoped that much of the land will come under irrigation. Population (1901) 1,011 persons ; 529 males, 482 females ; occupied houses 214.

**Bhelsī**, *tahsīl* Baldeogarh.—A village alienated in *jāgīr* to Dīmān Bhūpat Singh, situated in 24° 45' N., and 79° 10' E. The *jāgīrdār* bears the title of "Sawāī Dīmān." Population in 1901 amounted to 2,342 persons ; males 1,179, females 1,163 ; occupied houses 416.

**Birsāgar**, *tahsīl* Orchhā.—A village situated in 25° 12' N., and 78° 45' E., three miles south-west of Pirthīpur. It is a most picturesque place, the village lying at the northern end of a magnificent lake, three miles long, by one and half broad. It was constructed by Bir Singh Dev. Population (1901) was 398 ; males 215, females 183 ; occupied houses 50.

**Chandaira**, *tahsīl* Jatāra.—A village lying in 25° 6' N., and 79° 4' E. It stands at the foot of some small hills. A customs out-post is located here. Population (1901) was 2,260 persons ; males 1,148, females 1,112 ; occupied houses 444.

**Darguwān**, *tahsīl* Baldeogarh.—A village lying on the Dhasān, 9 miles south of Baldeogarh, in  $24^{\circ} 36' N.$  and  $79^{\circ} 5' E.$ , said to have been populated some 900 years ago. A temple to Bhawānī stands here. A weekly market is held on Saturdays. A large tank is situated close by the village. Population (1901) was 2,789 persons; 1,904 males, and 885 females; occupied houses 343.

**Derī**, *tahsīl* Baldeogarh.—A *jāgīr* village, situated in  $24^{\circ} 54' N.$  and  $79^{\circ} 1' E.$ , to the north-west of Baldeogarh, said to have been populated some 200 years ago. The *jāgīrdār* bears the title of Rao Sāheb. A police *chaukī* is situated in the village. Population in 1901 was 2,935 persons; males 1,400 and females 1,535; occupied houses 563.

**Dhawāri**, *tahsīl* Tahrauli.—A village and headquarters of a *kilādār*. It lies in  $25^{\circ} 31' N.$  and  $78^{\circ} 55' E.$  Population in 1901 was 237; 165 males, 72 females; occupied houses 17.

**Digaura** (*Dogora on map*), *tahsīl* Tikamgarh.—A village situated on the Orchhā-Tikamgarh road, 15 miles from Tikamgarh, in  $24^{\circ} 58' N.$ , and  $78^{\circ} 55' E.$  The present ruling branch of the Orchhā house belongs to the Digaura family which is an offshoot of the Barāgaon family.

Diwān Hardaul, the brother of Jhujhār Singh, had a son named Bijai Shāh whose son, Pratāp Singh, was styled Barāgaon-wāla from the name of his *jāgīr*.

A palace is being erected here, which was commenced in 1885.

A weekly market is held here on Tuesday. A Hindi school and State *thāna* and post office are situated in the village.

Population (1901) 1,880 persons; 967 males, 913 females; occupied houses 335.

**Jatāra**, *tahsīl* Jatāra.—Headquarters of the *tahsīl* situated in  $25^{\circ} 1' N.$  and  $79^{\circ} 6' E.$  It is a most picturesque place. Like Tikamgarh it lies below the level of a lake. The lake is, in this case, of great size, being about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile long, by 1 broad, with some small islands at the end near the town. It is retained by two dams of no great length, closing the only gaps in a semicircle of hills. These dams were built by the Chandella chief Madanā Varman (1129-67) after whom the lake is called the Madan Sāgar. The waters of the lake supply the town and also irrigate a large area by gravitation, through syphons and a canal made in 1897.

The place is one of considerable interest containing many Muhammadan buildings, most, if not all, in the later Mughal style of Shāh Jahān, while traces of the remains of an extensive settlement stretch for about two miles beyond the present limits.

It appears to be the Jatrā or Jhatrā of Abul Fazl, which was the headquarters of a *mahal* in the Irich *sarkār* of the *sūbah* of Agra.<sup>1</sup>

The place, in Muhammadan days, was known as Islāmābād, a name given, it is said, by Islām Shāh Sūr. The local *kāzī* possesses two *sanads*. One is dated 14th *Jamādi-us-sānī*, 1049 A. H. or 3rd October 1637. This falls in the period between Jhujhār Singh's revolt and the succession of Pahār Singh when the State was treated as *khālsā*. The seal on the document runs:—*Shāh Jahān Bādshāh-i-Ghāzī Kirān-us-sānī Shāhab-ud-dīn Muhammad Sayad Abdulla Khān Bahādur Fīroz Jang 1047*.<sup>2</sup>

The other document was granted by Mahārājā Sānwant Singh on *Chait Bādī* 13th, 1814, or March 1755.

A story runs that Bhārtī Chand defeated Salīm, presumably Salīm Shāh Sūr, and on recovering the place restored the old name of Jatāra. This legend, which is recited in the verses given below, cannot, however, be founded on fact:—

*Nripati Bhārtī Chand huwa prajani pāl sukh kand,  
Nit nipur pāwan param jāhir bakhat buland,  
Rājā san thit hot hi dharmānt sarsāi,  
Kīnh prajan ranjan sa widhi, ari bhanjan widh bhāi.  
Shahar, Salaimābād war Shāh Salaiman tatra,  
Suniwa Bhārtī Chand Nrip takū akhil aghpatra,  
Dal sajjit karkai kiyo samārghor tīhi sāth,  
Med mai kar medni liya prashasthaya sāth.  
Nagar Salīmābād ko kin Jatāra nām,  
Durg māha dhwajarop, nij kīnh gaman nij dhām,  
Apar shatru mad mand kar jūt awani wash kīnh,  
Sadan sunder adik rachai aru sar durg nawīn.  
Sūranko sir mor (suhāwan) pāwan shrijas juha chhuyowhai  
Dīnan ko dukh khandan ko bhuj dandan pai bhuwa bhār  
layo hai,  
Ish astīs tain pūran hai ati turan karan mur hayo hai,  
Shāh Salīman ke mad mand ko Bhūpati Bhārtī Chand  
bhayo hai.*

*Nripati (Mahārājā) Bhārtī Chand was the root of happiness, in whose reign all his subjects were happy; he was just, and most religious and his days were sublime, all kinds of religious ceremony were regularly performed throughout his State, and justice was administered with equity. He indeed made his people happy in every way, and defeated his enemies by many devices.*

1. Blochmann, *Ain*, II, 188.

2. Abdulla Khān Fīroz Jang was the general in command of the force that defeated Jhujhār Singh. He appears to have become governor of this tract. He received the title of Fīroz Jang for crushing Khān Jahān Lodi's rebellion, E. M. H., VII, 23, 47-50.

In the city of Salaimābād (*Salīmābād*) ruled a Shāh (king), named Salaiman (*Salīm*). Bhārtī Chand Mahārājā heard of all his exploits. He collected his army and fought a fierce battle with him, in which the earth was drenched with blood ; he completely defeated him and the whole glory rested in his (Bhārtī Chand's) hands. He then gave (back) the name of Jatāra to Salimābād and after fixing his flag on the fort there, he returned to his city.

It was he who crushed the pride of his foe and conquering the country, brought it under subjection to himself, and it was he who constructed many a beautiful buildings and many a new forts.

As a crown beautifies the head of a king, so fame glorifies a warrior. As if to remove the sorrows of the poor, he took the burden of the whole earth upon his arms above the elbows. And by the blessing of God he fully succeeded in the work he had undertaken. Mahārājā Bhārtī Chand was born as being the only person able to crush and break the pride of Salīm Shāh.

Of the many edifices scattered throughout the place, only the fort and its palace are in good order.

The fort and palace stand on the edge of the lake, being built on the dam which closes a gap on the south-east side. It is a picturesque, but by no means very strong fort built in a mixture of Hindu and Muhammadan styles, the latter predominating. The traces of Hindu temple remains are visible in many places in the walls, and it seems probable that a fort of some kind stood here before the Muhammadans obtained possession. The gateways into the dwelling houses, etc., are chiefly Hindu. On the north-west side the wall of the fort falls sheer down into the lake. To the west of the fort on the same embankment lies a small rest-house.

Just to the east of the fort is a small eminence on the top of which are the remains of a wall. It is called Rām Shāh's *burj* and is said to have been built by the Chief of that name.

To the south-east of the village lie a collection of tombs. None is in good condition. The most important are those now known as the *Bārah-dariwāza* and the *Bājne-kā-math*. The former is a mausoleum which once contained four or possibly five tombs, of which three remain. Two are well carved. The dome inside is profusely decorated with passages from the *Kurān* in *tughra* characters with very ornamental plaques. One plaque, repeated round the whole dome on the lower tier, is in the form of the word *fateh*, "victory." The dome outside is fluted and capped after the later Mughal style of Shāh Jahān's day ; it rests upon a hexagon superimposed on an octagon. The body of the building is square.

This mausoleum and two others less ornate were once enclosed in a wall. The tomb must have belonged to some man of wealth and importance.

The *Bājne-kā-math* is also a mausoleum. It contains one tomb only. The chief interest lies in the walls which, instead of being plain, are scalloped from the floor to the apex of the dome gradually narrowing as they rise. The interior is lofty about 20 feet or 30 feet in height. Ornamentation there is none, except a little colour wash, and a narrow string-course of dog's teeth about three-quarters of the way up.

The rest of the buildings in this part are dilapidated. Returning to the village the *dargah* of Abdār Pīr is encountered near the south gate. Close to the gate on its west side a part of the parapet is kept whitewashed. Of this a legend is told. In V. S. 1735 or 1678 A. D., this piece of wall was used by this Muhammadan saint, Abdār Pīr, as his residence. One day, so the story runs, while the saint was engaged in polishing his teeth with a twig of tamarind, the people warned him that a well-known saint from Chanderī was approaching, riding on a tiger with a snake in his hand instead of a whip. Wishing to conciliate so terrible a visitor, Abdār Pīr called on heaven to aid him, and induce the wall to advance and *peshwāi* the Chanderī saint. He threw away the twig at this moment. The twig split in two and now forms the fine two stemmed tamarind which shades the tomb and mosque, while the part of the wall still kept white advanced with the saint upon it. To this day the clothes and turban of the saint are preserved by the custodian of the temple.<sup>1</sup> He one day disappeared suddenly on a neighbouring hill, which can be seen from the fort. On this hill a fair is still held every Thursday in *Bhādon*.

A modern Jain temple stands in the centre of the village. Though modern it contains the remains of many images of the 12th century which have evidently suffered at the hands of the Muhammadans. They are all Digambara. Images of Adināth, Pārasnāth, Santināth and Chadraprabhu are commonest. About half a mile beyond the north gate is an old *bāori* with an inscription in Hindi and Persian. It is called *Lohlangar-kū-bāori*. It is made up of pieces of Hindu temples.

The inscription in Persian character has been written by Maula Mihraj Khān, resident of the town of Bastār, in the reign of the Great Khān, the exalted King, Sun of the world and the faith, Ismāil Khān, son of Nizām Khān, Thursday, the month of *Shābān*, A. H. 839.

The Sanskrit inscription begins with an imprecation of Visvanāth, then gives the date Vikrama Samvat 1491, *Saka*

---

1. They are in absolute rags and tatters and might be of any age.

1356, Durmati *Samvatsara* (A. D. 1434-35), and records a gift by a Brâhman whose name cannot be made out.

On the western end of the dam on which the fort stands are many remains of small buildings, some containing artificial water courses, others *satt* stones not inscribed, and at the end on the summit of a hill are traces of an old wall. This hill is called *Gaur-ki-pahâr* and is said to have borne the fort of a Gaur Râjput.

At the foot of the hill stand the remains of a mosque or *Idgah* with seven domes which is in consequence called the *Sat-markia* or seven domes. Behind this building a great treasure was supposed to lie buried, its position being indicated by a stone thus inscribed—

*Sat marhi kî chânre,  
Aur talao kî pâr,  
Jo horai Chandel ko,  
So leye ukhâr.*

*Within the shade of the seven domes,  
By the edge of the mighty lake,  
One of true Chandel blood and bone,  
May a treasure find and take.*

This stone reposed in undisturbed peace till 1895, when some Kanjars disguised as Gusâins dug it up, and if there was a treasure no doubt removed it. It does not say much for local enterprise, but is a great testimony to their integrity and respect for the treasure thus awaiting a true Chandella, that it lay so long in peace. The village has a population (1901) of 3,305 persons; males 1,699, females 1,606; occupied houses 661. The *tâhsil* offices, a *thâna*, a customs out-post, a State granary, an Imperial post office, a State post office, and a school are situated here.

**Kari (Bari Kari), *tâhsil* Tikamgarh.**—A village lying eight miles north of Tikamgarh, and two miles east of the Pirthipur road in  $24^{\circ} 47' N.$ , and  $78^{\circ} 53' E.$  It is said to have been founded by the Chandellas in Samvat 1335 (1278 A. D.). A tank called the Dip Sûgar made by the Chandellas is situated here. Two miles from this village is the Hirânagar *bâori* where a market is held every Thursday. Population (1901) 2,789 persons; 1,408 males, 1,381 females, and 616 occupied houses.

**Khargâpur, *tâhsil* Baldeogarh.**—A village situated in  $24^{\circ} 49' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 11' E.$ , alienated in *jâgir* to Diwân Bahâdur Kishor Singh. Population in 1901 amounted to 3,363 persons; males 1,699, females 1,664; occupied houses 736.

**Kundâr (Garh-Kundâr), *tâhsil* Tahrauli.**—An old village situated in  $25^{\circ} 30' N.$ , and  $78^{\circ} 57' E.$ , seven miles south-west of Tahrauli. Its importance lies in its having been the first place seized by the Bundelâs from the Khangârs. The old settlement lies

in heavy jungle. On the top of a small hill stands a fort built by Mahārājā Bir Singh Dev. Near the temple of the Devī, is a large tank called the Singh Sāgar, also built by Mahārājā Bir Singh Dev. It is one of the three large tanks which the Mahārājā had built, the other two being the Bir Sāgar at Orchhā and Dev Sāgar at Dinaṛā. The Singh Sāgar occupied part of the old village site which shows that by the time of Bir Singh it was already deserted. The temple of a local goddess Mahā-Māya Gridh-Wāhīnī Devī stands here. This is the goddess through whose favour Mahārājā Sohanpāl is supposed to have secured a kingdom. The goddess is so named from having ridden on a vulture (*gridhra*). Kundār remained the capital of the State until 1539 when it was removed to Orchhā. In the *nava-rātras* of *Chaitra* and *Ashwin*, festivities in honour of the goddess are held with great pomp, and a buffalo is sacrificed. The old inscribed stone just under the feet of the goddess, is said to have been broken by order of Rājā Devi Singh, and replaced by another inscription of his own. On a portion of the old stone still remaining the figures Samvat 1313 (1256 A. D.) are said to be visible. In Akbar's days it was included in the Irich *sarkār* of the Agra *sūbah*, and was the headquarters of a *mahal*.<sup>1</sup>

Population amounted to 1,328 persons, in 1901; males 698, females 630; occupied houses 204.

**Lidhaura, tāhsīl Jatāra.**—A village situated in 25° 5' N., and 78° 55' E. This place was the real capital of the State in days of Mahārājās Hāte Singh and Mān Singh. Several palaces and old buildings are still standing here. Sleeman in his "Rambles and Recollections" describes the mimic marriage of a Shāligrām with a Tulsī plant which was being celebrated with great pomp when he visited Orchhā in 1835.<sup>2</sup> Population (1901) 3,447; males 1,732, females 1,715; occupied houses 753. A customs out-post, a police station, a State post office, a school, and a State granary are situated here.

**Mahārājpur, tāhsīl Tikamgarh.**—Practically a suburb of Tikamgarh lying only one mile west of the town. A tank has lately been constructed here called the Hanumān Sāgar, and a temple dedicated to Mahādeo is being built on its banks. Population (1901) 710 persons; 347 males, 363 females; occupied houses 142. Ahir caste is predominant.

**Mahewa, tāhsīl Jatāra.**—A village lying in 25° 14' N., and 79° 0' E. It is well-known for the shrine of Kapilnāth Mahādeo. This village was granted by Rudra Pratāp to his son, Udayāditya, the ancestor of Champat Rai and of all the *Dangāhi* Bundelās. Population (1901) 1,706 persons; males 918,

1. Kidar of Blochmann—*Ain*, II, 188.

2. Sleeman—*Rambles and Recollections* (Constable), I, 142.

females 788 ; living in 299 houses. The palace of Udayūditya still stands here.

**Majna**, *tahsīl* Baldeogarh.—A village situated in  $24^{\circ} 50'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 4'$  E., on the high metalled road leading from Tikamgarh to Jatāra, 12 miles from Baldeogarh. A *sati* pillar stands near the village. An inspection bungalow, a *thāna*, a police station, and a State post office are situated in the village. Population in 1901 was 715 persons ; males 368, females 347; occupied houses 142.

**Mamaun**, *tahsīl* Tikamgarh.—A village situated two miles from east of Tikamgarh town in  $24^{\circ} 45'$  N., and  $78^{\circ} 55'$  E. The village stands on a hill. A good tank is situated near it. Brāhmans predominate in the population which numbers (1901) 203 persons ; 109 males, 94 females ; occupied houses 36.

**Marhia**, *tahsīl* Orchhā.—A village lying in  $25^{\circ} 10'$  N., and  $78^{\circ} 48'$  E., about four miles south of Pirthipur. It is well-known on account of the temple to the goddess Achhrū-mātā. The temple to the goddess stands on a hill near the village. A great fair is held here in *Chait* (March). Population (1901) was 140.

**Mawai**, *tahsīl* Tikamgarh.—A village situated at a distance of eight miles from Tikamgarh in  $24^{\circ} 48'$  N., and  $78^{\circ} 58'$  E. It is said to have been first founded by Lodis some 400 years ago. A tank and two *chopras* (large *bāoris*) of the Chandella period stand in the village. The river Ur flows at a distance of two miles from the village. Population (1901) 2,241 persons ; 1,139 males, 1,102 females ; occupied houses 424.

**Mohangarh**, *tahsīl* Tikamgarh.—A village lying in  $25^{\circ} 0'$  N., and  $78^{\circ} 47'$  E. This place was formerly known as Garh and formed one of the *tappas* of the Jatāra *pargana*. It is now a sub-division of the Tikamgarh *tahsīl* in charge of a *kilādār*. An old fortress, a State *thāna*, and a post office are situated here. A fine tank lies near the village. A weekly market is held here every Friday. Population (1901) 2,040 persons ; 1,091 males, 949 females ; occupied houses 404.

**Nadanwāra**, *tahsīl* Tikamgarh.—A village situated 20 miles north of Tikamgarh in  $25^{\circ} 3'$  N., and  $78^{\circ} 47'$  E. It was founded by Dūngīs. The place is well-known for its large tank. Population (1901) 1,016 persons ; 494 males, 522 females ; occupied houses 193.

**Nivāri**, *tahsīl* Tahrauli.—The chief village in the southern division of the *tahsīl* situated in  $25^{\circ} 20'$  N., and  $78^{\circ} 50'$  E., three and half miles from Arjār railway station.

It was at one time the headquarters of the *tahsīl*. In former days a small fort stood on a hill near the village, but was demolished by the Marāthās. When it was the headquarters of the Tahrauli *tahsīl*, the village was in a flourishing state,

but with the removal of the headquarters to Tahrauli, it has lost its former importance. Population was, in 1901, 2,681; males 1,384, females 1,297; occupied houses 557. A school, a *thāna*, a customs out-post, and a State post office are situated in the village. A weekly market is held here.

**Nūna, tahsil Jatāra.**—A village lying in 25° 11' N., and 78° 58' E. This village also formed part of Udayāditya's *jāgīr* and the *jāgīr* was called Nūna-Mahewā in consequence and the family Nūna-Mahewāwālas. Population (1901) 1,052; males 537, females 517; occupied houses 162.

**Orchhā Town, tahsil Orchhā.**—The old capital town of the State is situated on the Betwā river in 25° 21' N., and 78° 42' E., eight miles by road from Jhānsi.

The town which was founded by Mahārājā Rudra Pratāp in 1531 A. D. stands on the very edge of the Betwā in a hollow surrounded by scrub jungle. In early days the jungle must have been of considerable thickness, as in spite of its low position it was in Mughal days a difficult place to attack. In 1634 when it was assaulted by the Mughal forces in their campaign against Mahārājā Jhujhār Singh, the historian states, that on arriving within three *kos* (6 miles) of Orchhā the forces were constantly occupied in cutting down trees and forming roads and made but little advance daily.<sup>1</sup>

In 1783 Mahārājā Vikramājit removed the capital to Tikamgarh, and since that time Orchhā has rapidly fallen into decay. It is now of interest only on account of its magnificent buildings of which the finest were erected by Mahārājā Bir Singh Dev (1605-27).

On an island in the Betwā which has been surrounded by a battlemented wall, now sadly dilapidated, and approached by a causeway over a fine bridge of 14 arches, stands a huge palace-fort, mainly the work of Mahārājā Bir Singh Dev. It consists of several connected buildings constructed at different times. The finest of these are the *Rāj-mandir* and *Jahāngīr-mahāl*.

The *Rāj-mandir* is built in the shape of a square with an almost entirely plain exterior, relieved by projecting windows and a line of delicate *chhatri* along the summit. The inner courtyards, which are very numerous, are most picturesque.

The *Jahāngīr-mahāl*, so called from the Emperor Jahāngīr having stayed in it during a visit to his friend Bir Singh Dev, is a much finer building. Also built in rectangular form, it is relieved by a circular tower at each corner surmounted by a *chhatri*, while two lines of graceful balconies supported on brackets, mark the two central storeys. These balconies are closed in with the fine screens of pierced stone work. Above

the roof is crowned with eight large fluted domes with ornamented balustrades. The whole building is magnificent in its combination of massive strength and delicate ornament, perhaps unsurpassed as a specimen of Hindu domestic architecture. The *Dūcān-khāna* or audience-hall is near the entrance to the fort. It is a picturesque building consisting of three successive rows of arches. It is here that the *abhishek*<sup>1</sup>, or inauguration ceremony of the Orchhā chiefs was formerly carried out. The *Shīsha-mahāl* or glass palace is close to the *Jahāngīr-mahāl*. It derives its name from the coloured tiles used to embellish it. The Mahārājā when visiting Orchhā usually occupies this palace. It contains a *darbār* hall supported on eight pillars and is consequently known as the *ath-khamba*.

The *Phūl-bāgh* is, as the name implies, a flower garden, containing a small house. In it stands the temple of Rāghuji, the tutelary deity of the Orchhā chiefs. It also contains the *nauchaukia*, or nine houses, occupied by Bir Singh Dev's nine sons. Below the main building is an extensive series of *tai-khāna* for use in hot weather ventilated by two tall air-shafts. Close by is the *Asthān* or seat of Hardaul. It was here that he was given the poisoned meal by the orders of his brother Jujhār Singh. A temple of Rūmchandra stands opposite the *Asthān*, where a fair is held in the month of *Sāwan*.

There are many temples scattered over the area formerly occupied by the town, the finest of these is that of Chaturbhuj, dedicated as its name implies to the four armed Vishnu. This temple stands on a huge stone platform. The temple itself is a lofty rectangular building with a very plain exterior, ornamented by two large and four small spires (one of the smaller has been destroyed) of the "pine cone" variety common to Bundelkhand. Inside it is quite devoid of carving or ornament. The great loftiness of its ceiling, an unusual feature in a Hindu temple, its bare walls and the arrangement of its sanctum irresistibly suggest a Christian church rather than a temple.

Of the remaining temples that to Harsiddhi Devi, the tutelary goddess of the Jijhotia Brāhmans, is the most important.

A story is told of this temple. In the 18th century Jaswant Rao Holkar swept down upon Orchhā. The inhabitants unable to protect themselves assembled at the temple to pray for help. Suddenly a party of horsemen appeared from the temple led by Bir Singh and his son, Hardaul, and chased the Marāthās from the walls. Later on, however, the Marāthās

---

1. *Abhishek* from Sanskrit *abhishechan* literally dropping of holy water, milk or other liquid on an idol or king at the inauguration ceremony.

returned and stole the image of the goddess which now stands, it is said, in a temple on the banks of the Siprā near Ujjain.

Of the other buildings the cenotaphs of Bir Singh Dev, Bhūrtī Chand (1531-54), Madhukar Shāh (1554-92), Pahār Singh (1641-53) and Sāwant Singh (1752-65), all rulers of Orchhā, and their Rānis are grouped together on the river's edge below the fort. That of Bir Singh Dev would, had it been completed, have been the finest, but the domes were never finished and it is a mere rugged pile of stone, massive and picturesque, but with no pretensions to architectural form.<sup>1</sup>

The town is also the headquarters of the *tahsīl*. Population in 1901 amounted to 1,830 persons ; males 1,242, females 588 ; occupied houses 256.

It is three miles by metalled road from the Orchhā station of the Jhānsi-Mānikpur Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

**Pacher, tahsīl Baldeogarh.**—This village, which is also known as Purushottamgarh, is situated on the bank west of the Dhasān river in 24° 54' N., and 79° 24' E., 18 miles north-east of Baldeogarh. A small fortress and a temple to Thākurji stand in the village. Population in 1901 amounted to 845 persons ; 430 males, and 415 females ; occupied houses 168.

**Palera, tahsīl Jatāra.**—Village situated in 25° 2' N., and 79° 17' E., 13 miles due east of Jatāra (is the Pulchra of our maps). The village was originally given to Dhurmangad, son of Bhagwān Rao, first chief of Datia. The *jāgīrdārs* of this village were considered the first in rank in the State. In 1895, however, the *jāgīrdār*'s behaviour was such as to necessitate the confiscation of the village, the Thākur being given a cash allowance. Until 1901 it was the headquarters of a separate *tahsīl*. A police station, a school, a customs out-post, and a State post office are located here. Population (1901) was 3,795 ; males 1,895, females 1,900 ; occupied houses 815.

**Papaunī, tahsīl Tikamgarh.**—A village, eight miles east of Tikamgarh. It is an old village. The Jains consider it a *tīrtha* to which they give the name of Pampāpur. The Jain temple in the village is visited by pilgrims in the months of *Bhādon* and *Phāgun*. A *bāorū* of the Chandella period with an obliterated inscription also stands here, and a pillar known as the *Jait kamb*. Population (1901) was 249 persons ; 132 males; 117 females ; occupied houses 48.

**Partāpganj, tahsīl Tikamgarh.**—A village four miles from Tikamgarh on the Lalitpur road in 24° 39' N., and 78° 49' E.

1. It was originally to have been set with glazed tiles. This was never done, but the Agra firm who had undertaken the work with rare honesty, paid back to the State a large sum advanced for the purpose. This payment took many years to complete, and could of course have been repudiated with ease.

The original name of the village was Shivapuri. In a temple to Mahādeo under the *Nandi* is an undecipherable inscription of which, however, Samvat 1201 (1144 A. D.), is legible. The present Mahārājā added to the buildings and populated it, giving it the name of Partāpganj. It was first populated by Ahirs who are still the *zamindārs* of the village. A garden with a small house in it stands in the village. Along the banks of a small stream are *ghāts* originally built in early days, but repaired by Mahārājā Vikramājit. The temple was built in the time of Bir Singh Dev. During the month of *Phāgun*, on the *shira-rātrī* day a large fair is held here and the Mahādeo is carried in procession. Population (1901) 234 persons ; 116 males, 118 females ; occupied houses 43.

**Pathāram, tahsīl Tahrauli.**—A village and headquarters of a *kilādār* situated in 25° 21' N., and 79° 5' E. Population was in 1901, 323 ; males 154, females 169 ; occupied houses 50.

**Pirthīpur, tahsīl Orchhī.**—The headquarters of the *nāib-tahsīldār* of the *tahsīl*, situated in 25° 13' N., and 78° 46' E. It was once the headquarters of a separate *tahsīl*. Close to the village lies the Rūdha Sūgar tank. It appears to derive its name from Prithvī Singh who made the lake. A school, a customs office, a *thāna* and a State granary are located here as well as the *nāib-tahsīldār's* office. Population (1901) was 2,588 ; males 1,329, females 1,259; occupied houses 561.

**Saktbhēnro, tahsīl Tahrauli.**—A village situated in 25° 30' N., and 78° 55' E. (*Sukuto-megnōtō* of maps), four miles north-west of Kundār on the Jhānsi-Garotha road. A temple to Mahādeo stands in the village near which an annual fair is held on the *Phāgun Badī* 14th (*shira-rātrī*) and lasts for eight days. Population in 1901 amounted to 1,085 persons ; males 552, females 533 ; occupied houses 206.

**Tahrauli, tahsīl Tahrauli.**—The headquarters of the *tahsīl* of the same name, lying in 25° 32' N., and 79° 3' E., on the Jhānsi-Garotha road. A small fort stands in the village, also a police *thāna*, a grain depôt and a customs out-post. Population in 1901 was 2,292; males 1,153, females 1,139; occupied houses 553.

**Tarichar-kalān, tahsīl Tahrauli.**—A village in 25° 25' N., and 78° 55' E., with a customs station. Population was, in 1901, 1,100 ; males 554, females 546; occupied houses 309.

**Teharka, tahsīl Tahrauli.**—A village and railway station on the Jhānsi-Mānikpur line situated in 25° 18' N., and 79° 0' E.,

about 27 miles south-east of Jhānsi. The village has been alienated in *jāgīr* to Shri Siddh Bāba, who is the spiritual guide of the Mahārājā. A temple to Mahādeo stands in the village.

People say the village was formerly called Kundalpur. The soil of the village is rich and many stone sugarcane mills (*kolhu*) are found lying round the site showing that sugarcane was largely grown here. *Pān* is grown to a small extent.

A standard *bigha* measure called the *Teharkā-ki-dori* exists at the place. This measure is cut on a pillar in the village.

The population in 1901 numbered 1,707 persons; males 889, females 818, with 270 occupied houses.

A customs out-post is located here, and a market is held weekly.

**Thauna**, *tahsīl* Tabrauli—A village situated in 25° 23' N., and 78° 58' E. A small fort stands here with a *kilādār* in charge. The village was formerly alienated in *jāgīr* to the Mahārājā's *Achārya* but is now *khālsā*.

Population was in 1901, 1,151 persons; 628 males; and 523 females; occupied houses 203. A weekly market is held here on Friday.

**Tikamgarh** (Tehrī), *tahsīl* Tikamgarh.—Chief town of the State situated in 24° 45' N., and 78° 50' E. Originally it was a small village named Tehrī (*i. e.*, a triangle) consisting of three hamlets, forming a rough triangle. In 1783 Mahārājā Vikramājīt finding Orchhā was too open to Marāthā raids selected this spot for his new capital. Until 1887 the capital was generally known as Tehrī, but in that year to avoid confusion with Tehrī (Garhwāl) in the United Provinces, the name Tikamgarh, strictly speaking that of the fort only, was adopted in place of Tehrī and recognised officially. Tikam is one of the appellations of Krishna.

The site is a curious one as the town itself lies at low level below a small ridge which has been used to retain the waters of a large tank. On the same level as the tank stand the palace, a small fort and a curious temple built in the form of a tower.

Just below the palace lies a wide open square. The streets are clean, and the shops in the main road built of stone. The garden containing the *chhatris* of several chiefs lies to the east of the town. Numerous tanks lie in and round the town.

The town is in part surrounded by a wall. Up to the time of the present chief it was a very indifferent town. Sleeman thus describes it in 1835. "Tehrī is a wretched town without one respectable dwelling house tenanted beyond the palace or one merchant or even a shop-keeper of capital and credit.

There are some tolerable houses unoccupied and in ruins. The stables and accommodations for all public establishments seem to be all in the same ruinous state as the dwelling houses.<sup>1</sup>

The town has entirely changed in appearance since then and is now a prosperous and clean city.

Population was in 1881, 18,344; 1891, 17,670; 1901, 14,050 persons; males 7,105, females 6,945. Hindus numbered 10,671 or 76 per cent., Musalmāns 2,753 or 20 per cent., Jains 634 or 4 per cent., Animists 2. The population has decreased by 20 per cent. since 1891 and by 23 per cent. since 1881.

A municipality was started in 1891. The committee consists of official and non-official members in the proportion of one to three.

There are no buildings of note except the Mahārājā's palace and the fort and the *Jugal-nirās* and Bindrāban gardens, the latter containing the cenotaphs of the Chiefs. There are also a High School, a Hospital, a Guest house, a *sarai*, an encamping ground, and British and State post offices. The nearest telegraph office is that at Lalitpur which is reached by a metalled road, 36 miles long. Lalitpur stands on the Midland Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

1. Sleeman—*Rambles and Recollections* (Constable), I, 175.

**TREATY of FRIENDSHIP and DEFENSIVE ALLIANCE  
concluded between the BRITISH GOVERNMENT  
and the RAJAH of OORCHA—1812.**

The Rajah Mahendar Bickermajeet Bahader, Rajah of Oorcha, one of the Chiefs of Bundelcund, by whom and his ancestors his present possessions have been held in successive generations during a long course of years without paying tribute or acknowledging vassalage to any other power, having on all occasions manifested a sincere friendship and attachment to the British Government, and having solicited to be placed under the powerful protection of that Government, the British Government, relying on the continuance of that disposition which the Rajah has hitherto manifested towards it, and on his adherence to whatever engagements he may form on the basis of a more intimate union of his interests with those of the Honorable Company, has acceded to the Rajah's request, and the following articles of a treaty of friendship and alliance are accordingly by mutual consent concluded between the British Government and the said Rajah Mahendar Bicker-majeet Bahader, his heirs and successors.

**ARTICLE 1.**

The Rajah Mahendar Bickermajeet Bahader, Rajah of Oorcha, having professed his obedience and attachment to the British Government, he is admitted henceforward among the number of the allies of the British Government; accordingly the said Rajah hereby engages to consider the friends of that Government as his friends, and its enemies as his enemies, and to abstain from molesting any Chief or State in alliance or in amity with the British Government; and considering all persons who may be disaffected to that Government as his own enemies, he further engages to afford no protection to such persons or their families in his country, to hold no intercourse or correspondence of any nature with them, but, on the contrary to use every means in his power to seize and deliver them up to the officer of the British Government.

**ARTICLE 2.**

The territory which from ancient times has descended to Rajah Mahander Bickermajeet Bahader by inheritance, and is now in his possession, is hereby guaranteed to the said Rajah and to his heirs and successors, and they shall never be molested in the enjoyment of the said territory by the British Government nor any of its allies or dependents, nor shall any tribute be demanded from him or them. The British Government, moreover, engages to protect and defend the dominions

at present in Rajah Mahendar Bickermajeeet Bahader's possession from the aggressions of any foreign power.

#### ARTICLE 3.

The British Government having, by the terms of the foregoing Article, engaged to protect the territories at present possessed by the Rajah of Oorchha from the aggressions of any foreign power, it is hereby agreed between the contracting parties that, whenever the Rajah shall have reason to apprehend design on the part of any foreign power to invade his territories, whether in consequence of any disputed claims or on any other ground, he shall report the circumstances of case to the British Government, which will interpose its mediation for the adjustment of such disputed claim, and the Rajah, relying on the justice and equity of the British Government, agrees implicitly to abide by its awards. If the apprehended aggression shall be referable to any other cause, the British Government will endeavour, by representation and remonstrance to avert the design; and if, in the former case, notwithstanding the Rajah's acquiescence in the award of the British Government, the other power shall persist in its hostile designs, and if in the latter case, the endeavours of the British Government should fail of success, such measures will be adopted for the protection of the Rajah's territories the circumstances of the case may appear to require.

#### ARTICLE 4.

If at any time the Rajah of Oorecha shall have any claim or cause of complaint against any of the Rajahs or Chiefs allied to or dependent on the British Government, the Rajah engages to refer the case to the arbitration and decision of that Government, and to abide by its award, and on no account to commit aggression against the other party, or to employ his own force for the satisfaction of such claim or for the redress of the grievance of which he may complain.

On the other hand, the British Government engages to withhold its allies or dependents from committing any aggression against the Rajah of Oorchha or to punish the aggressor and to arbitrate any demand they may have upon the Rajah of Oorecha according to the strict principles of justice, the Rajah on his part agreeing implicitly to abide by its award.

#### ARTICLE 5.

The Rajah of Oorecha engages at all times to employ his utmost exertions in defending the roads and passes of his country against any enemies or predatory bodies who may attempt to penetrate through it into the territories of the Honorable Company.

## ARTICLE 6.

Whenever the British Government may have occasion to send its troops through the dominions of the Rajah of Oorcha, or to station a British force within his territories, it shall be competent to the British Government so to detach or station its troops, and the Rajah of Oorcha shall give his consent accordingly. The Commander of the British troops which may thus eventually pass through or temporarily occupy a position within the Rajah's territories shall not in any manner interfere in the internal concerns of the Rajah's Government. Whatever materials or supplies may be required for the use of the British troops during their continuance in the Rajah's territories shall be readily furnished by the Rajah's officers and subjects, and shall be paid for at the price current of the bazar.

## ARTICLE 7.

The Rajah engages never to entertain in his service any British subject or Europeans of any nation or description whatever, without the consent of the British Government.

## ARTICLE 8.

This Treaty, consisting of eight Articles, having this day been concluded between the British Government and the Rajah Mahendar Bickermajeet Bahadur, the Rajah of Oorcha, through the agency of John Wauchope, Esq., in virtue of powers delegated to him by the Right Honorable the Governor-General in Council on the one part, and Lalla Dhakun Lall, the vakeel of the said Rajah, on the other, Mr. John Wauchope has delivered to the said vakeel one copy of the Treaty in English, Persian, and Hindooi, signed and sealed by himself, and the said vakeel has delivered to Mr. John Wauchope another copy duly executed by the Rajah, and Mr. John Wauchope engages to procure and deliver to the said vakeel within the space of thirty days, a copy ratified by the seal of the Company and the signature of the Governor-General in Council, on the delivery of which the copy executed by Mr. John Wauchope shall be returned, and the Treaty shall be considered from that time to have full force and effect.

*Signed, sealed, and exchanged at Banda, in Bundelcund, on the Twenty-third day of December 1812, corresponding with the Sixth day of Poos, 1220 Fuslee.*

Ratified by the Right Honorable the Governor-General in Council at Fort William in Bengal, this 8th day of January 1813.

## APPENDIX B.

Chronological Table of the Chandella Rulers of Jajhoti.

Professor Kielhorn's *List of Inscriptions on Northern India, and its Appendix.*

1. Nannuka.	
2. Vākpati	... Son of No. 1.
3. Jayasakti (Jeja, Jejjāka) ...	From this chief the tract acquired the name of Jejakabhukti contracted to Jajhoti. Son of No. 2.
4. Vijayasakti (Vijaya, Vijsa,... Vijjāka)	Son of No. 2.
5. Rāhila	... Son of No. 4.
6. <i>Mhr.</i> Harsha, circ. 900.	... Son of No. 5, married a Chauhan princess. Was contemporary of Kshitipāla of Kanauj (917-948).
7. <i>Mhr.</i> Yashovarman, 925-955.	... Son of No. 6.
8. <i>Mhr.</i> Dhānga, 955-1000.	... Son of No. 7. Records known of A. D. 954, 955 (?), 998, 1002; the last just after his death.
9. Ganda, 1000-1025.	... Son of No. 8. Assisted Anandpāl of Lahore against Malmūd of Ghazni.
10. <i>Mhr.</i> Vidyādhara, 1025-1037.	... Son of No. 9. Contemporary with Bhoja of Dhūr (1010-55).
11. <i>Mhr.</i> Vijayapāla, 1037-1050.	... Son of No. 10.
12. <i>Mhr.</i> Devavarman, 1050-1098.	... Records known of A.D. 1051.
13. <i>Mhr.</i> Kirtivarman, 1098-1100.	... Son of No. 11. Record of A. D. 1098.
14. Sallakshanavarman, 1100-1117.	... Son of No. 13.
15. Jayavarman	... Son of No. 14. Record of 1117 A. D.
16. <i>Mhr.</i> Prithvīvarman	... Younger brother of No. 14.
17. <i>Mhr.</i> Madanavarman, 1129-1167.	... Son of No. 16. Mentioned in records of A. D. 1129, 1130, 1131, 1133, 1151, 1155, 1158, 1162.

- 18 and 19. Pratāpvarman and Yashovarman do not appear to have reigned or only for a very short time.
20. *Mhr.* Parmārdideva, ... Son of No. 19. Defeated by the Chauhān ruler of Delhi, Prithvīrāj. The Chandella power was much reduced from this time. Records of A. D. 1167, 1168, 1171, 1182, 1184, 1195 and 1201.
21. *Mhr.* Trailokyavarman, ... Records known of A. D. 1212, 1240, 1241.
22. *Mhr.* Viravarman, ... Son of No. 21. Records A.D. 1261, 1262, 1268, 1281, 1286.
23. Bhojavarman, 1289 ... Record A. D. 1288.

(NOTE.—*Mhr.*=Mahārājādhīrāja.)

*See* E. I., i, 122, 136, 140, 147, 153; 208, 215, 221, 327, 333; ii, 237, 305; iv, 157, 158.  
 I. A., xvi, 202, 205, 208, 237, 238; xvii, 231, 235; xviii, 238; xix, 37, No. 67; 179, No. 128.  
 C. A. S. R., xxi, 34, 49, 50, 51, 52, 73, 74, 173, 174.  
 J. A. B., vi, 332; xvii, 313, 317.

---



DATIA STATE.



## ARMS OF THE DATIA STATE.



**Arms:**—Purpure; a saltire or guttée de sang between two swords in fesse points upward hilted of the second.

**Crest:**—A Partridge. **Supporters:**—Lion and Sāmbar.

**Lambrequins:**—Purpure and or.

**Motto:**—*Vir dalap sharanadah.* “Lord of the brave, giver of refuge.”

**Note.**—The guttée de sang refers to the traditional descent of the Bundelās from a drop (*bund*) of blood. The swords and the motto refer to the protection given to the Bais of Mahādžī Sindhia and the battle with Perron at Seondha. The partridge refers to a fight seen on the site of Seondha fort in which a partridge beat off a hawk.

**Gotrāchār**—(See Orchhā State.)

---



## CHAPTER I. DESCRIPTIVE.

### Section I.—Physical Aspects.

Datiā is one of the three treaty States of the Bundelkhand Agency in Central India. The State, which lies between  $25^{\circ} 34'$  and  $26^{\circ} 18'$  north latitude, and  $78^{\circ} 13'$  and  $78^{\circ} 53'$  east longitude, has an area of about 911 square miles.

Situation  
and Area.

The real origin of the name Datiā is unknown, but the traditional derivation is as follows :—

Origin of  
name.

In early days this tract was held by Danta Vakra, the Dānava king of Karusha (a country which is placed by the Purāṇas on the “back of the Vindhya” and is often mentioned in connection with Avanti (Ujjain) and Kosala), who was killed by Krishna, and Datiā is supposed locally to be a corruption of Data or *Danta-nagara*.<sup>1</sup> The modern part of the town founded by Dalpat Rao is known as Dalipnagar. He also built the fort called Pratāpnagar after his *Rāshi-nām*.

The territory is much cut up by intervening portions of Gwalior and other States, the main section being bordered on the north by portions of Gwalior and the District of Jālaun, on the south by Gwalior and the Jhānsi District, on the east by Samthar and the Jhānsi District, and on the west by Gwalior.

Boundaries.

The State lies wholly in the low-lying natural division of Central India. The southern part, round the chief town, lies in the gneissic area, and forms a somewhat barren and rocky tract, covered with low ridges of gneiss traversed by conspicuous reefs of quartz and great boulder masses. In the north, however, a level and fertile alluvial plain conceals the rock.

NATURAL  
DIVISIONS.

No hills of any importance rise in the State, the most considerable being those at Seondha with an altitude of only 1,000 feet above sea-level.

HILLS.

The rivers of importance in the State are the Sind and the Pahūj.

RIVERS AND  
LAKES.

The Sind river is of considerable size and flows through the State for about fifty miles along the western border, passing by the town of Seondha. The Pahūj traverses the State for about the same distance, its tributaries, the Somela and Padwān, also contributing to the water-supply. In the rains the Sind can only be crossed by boats, the stream being then of great volume.

There are several lakes of importance in the State, those known as Sītā-sāgar, Taron-tāl, Lachhman-tāl, Karan-sāgar,

1. Another derivation is from *danti* or Ganesh, the one-toothed god.

married three times, first Rānī Khumān Kunwar, daughter of the Pāmār of Berchha, by whom he had one son, Subhkaran, and one daughter, Dharma Kunwar, who married the Pāmār, Thākur of Saigaon; secondly, Rānī Jarao Kunwar, daughter of Jai Singh Pāmār of Pālī, who bore him one son, Prithī Rāj, the ancestor of the Baroni Thākurs, and thirdly, Rānī Rāj Kunwar, daughter of Umrao Singh of Amba Bāgh, who bore Dhurmangad and Sakat Singh, whose descendants are the Thākurs of Palera.

Subhkaran  
(1656-83).

Subhkaran who succeeded his father had already rendered conspicuous service with the Mughal armies in Balkh and Badakshān (1646-53)<sup>1</sup> and in return received a *khilat*. He had not long been home when his father died.

After his succession Subhkaran continued to serve the Emperor and took part in all the important campaigns of his day. Local tradition states that he fought in 22 battles including the campaigns in which he was engaged before his father's death; the accounts are too confused and unreliable, however, for it to be possible to identify all the campaigns.

It is clear, however, that he together with Champat Rai and other Bundelās fought on the side of Aurangzeb and Murād against Dūra (1657-58)<sup>2</sup> and against Prince Shuja, taking part in the battle of Khajwa<sup>3</sup> in which Pirthī Rāj, Subhkaran's brother, was killed, his son, Chhatarsāl, succeeding to the Baroni *jūqīr*. On return from this campaign Subhkaran was made *sūbahdār* of Bundelkhand and raised to the rank of *panjhazārī*.<sup>4</sup> The Emperor hoped by this appointment to check the depredations of Champat Rai Bundelā, who had first raised the enmity of Aurangzeb by holding aloof at the battle of Khajwa and was at this time openly defying authority.

After some temporary successes Champat Rai was forced to retreat to the hills where he was finally defeated.<sup>5</sup>

In 1666 Subhkaran took part in the campaign in Arākān,<sup>6</sup> while from 1667 to 1680 he was engaged in the wars of the Deccan to which his son Dalpat Rao and his nephew Chhatarsāl of Baroni<sup>7</sup> accompanied him.

He and his son are often mentioned as distinguishing themselves against the Marāthās. Dalpat Rao was wounded at Autour in 1681, and received a *mansab* of 300 for his services.<sup>8</sup>

1. E. M. H., VII, 70, 76.

2. Do. VII, 220. *Bernier's Travels* (Constable), 46.

3. Do., VII, 233.

4. See Note 4, p. 3.

5. See Pannā State *Gazetteer*.

6. *Bernier's Travels* (Constable), 174.

7. This chief played an important part in many campaigns. He is mentioned in company with Udot (Udait) Singh of Oreubhā in the campaign against the Guru Banda at Lohgarh, in 1710. J. B. A., LXIII-1, 137-138.

8. Ferishta's *History of the Dekhan*, translated by Scott, II, 33-35.

In 1682 Subhakaran<sup>1</sup> joined Diler Khān's army in the Dekcan, but becoming dangerously ill, retired to Bahādurgarh<sup>2</sup>, leaving Dalpat Rao in command. His illness proved mortal and his death is thus referred to by an officer who was serving under Dalpat Rao: "Supkaran, Bundela, an amir of 2,500, died in his 63rd year at Bahadurgarh, and was much lamented by all." He puts this event in A. H. 1082 or 1681-82 A. D.<sup>3</sup>. Subhakaran is described as a brave soldier who met his death calmly in accordance with his own favourite saying, that there were two days in a man's life that on which he was fated not to die and that on which it was decreed that he should fall.

Subhakaran married Rāni Sen Kunwar, daughter of the Pāmār of Agora, who bore a son, Dalpat Rao, born in 1643; he also had another son named Arjun Singh.

At the news of the death of Subhakaran, Aurangzeb, whom he had served so well evinced great sorrow, sending Kāsim Khān<sup>4</sup> to carry his condolences to his heir and also a *farmān* recognizing Dalpat Rao and conferring on him the *mansab* of *panjhazārī*<sup>5</sup> and many valuable gifts. Dalpat Rao later on went to Delhi to pay his respects to the Emperor. He was received with great honour.

Dalpat Rao  
(1683-1707).

One of Aurangzeb's *begams*, Husain Mīr by name, about this time journeyed to Agra, and Dalpat Rao was deputed to escort her. He took his Rāni with him. On the way his Rāni's elephant became troublesome while crossing a river and could not be got over. Dalpat Rao, fearing that his Rāni's *pardah* would be broken, determined to kill her. The *begam*, however, hearing of this at once sent her own *chondel* (closed *pālki*) in which the Rāni was able to escape off the elephant. In remembrance of this event the Rānis of Datia still travel in a *chondel* when proceeding in State, a unique honour not enjoyed by any other State in Bundelkhand.

Dalpat Rao<sup>6</sup> was a great soldier and took a leading part in all the campaigns of his time, both before and after his father's death, being present at Bijāpur (1686), Golkonda (1687),

1. Ferishta's *History of the Dekhan*, translated by Scott, I, 51. The State account says, he died at Datia, but as this was written by a contemporary it is certainly more accurate, though Subhakaran's ashes may be at Datia.

2. The position of this place is unknown as it is not given on any maps. See E. M. H., VII, 383 note.

3. The State account gives 1683.

4. Kāsim Khān is the man who deserted Jaswant Singh at Fatehābād in 1658, and who poisoned himself in 1694 after being defeated by Santājī Ghorpare. E. M. H., VII, 216-357.

5. See Note 4, p. 3.

6. From this point I have, for Dalpat Rao's life, followed Scott's "Ferishta," II, 52-120, as it is far more accurate than the State rigmarole, and was written by an officer actually in Dalpat Rao's service. I have, however, kept Khāsi Khān's dates as being more reliable.

Adoni (1688), and Jinji (1694).<sup>1</sup> When his father was wounded he took command of the Bundelū forces, as has been already mentioned. In 1682 while Dalpat was at Aurangābād a curious incident took place which might have had serious results for the young chief. An emissary of Sambhājī's was found in the city and Khān Jahān sent to have him arrested. While the arrest was being carried out Dalpat Rao and his cortege passed by the house, and the man at that moment dashed out and escaped through Dalpat Rao's escort. Khān Jahān was furious, and accused Dalpat Rao of conniving at his escape. This Dalpat Rao denied, but the Mughal general refused to accept his personal explanation and proceeded to send a force to search Dalpat Rao's house. On this the whole Bundelū faction rose in arms, and Khān Jahān was obliged to desist; but he reported the matter to Aurangzeb. The Emperor declined to believe the tale and merely transferred Dalpat Rao to another force.

In 1683 Dalpat Rao joined Husain Ali Khān and was promoted to a *mansab* of 500. He was present at the siege of Rām Sij<sup>2</sup> where he was wounded, and afterwards given a *mansab* of 700, which was in 1686 increased to one of 1,300. Dalpat Rao next joined Ghāzi-ud-din Khān on his march to Bijāpur with supplies from Ahmadnagar, *en route* they were attacked by the Marāthās but beat them off, killing 4,000; for this act Ghāzi-ud-din received the title of Firoz-Jang, and Dalpat Rao that of Rao with permission to have an *ālam* (royal standard)<sup>3</sup> borne before him.<sup>4</sup> At the siege of Bijāpur Dalpat Rao was wounded by an arrow. He also served at the siege of Adoni (1688), and afterwards received a *mansab* of 2,100,<sup>5</sup> and was made *kilādār* of the fort. In 1692 he suddenly threw up this post and joined Prince Bedār Bakht, an act for which his *mansab* was reduced by 500. Later on, he was deputed to escort the Persian ambassador to Aurangābād. On the way he was attacked, but beat off the Marāthās and captured their leader Lakejī Sindhia, receiving back the 500 of which his *mansab* had been muled. In 1694 he joined Zulfikār Khān, and distinguished himself at the siege of Jinji. After the battle of Jinji the Emperor presented Dalpat Rao with a pair of massive gates, which are still preserved in the State on the gateway of the *Phūl-bāgh*. His son, Rām Chandra was, in 1698, appointed governor of Nāmunāgarh, but secretly left his post and made an attempt to seize Datā in his father's absence;<sup>6</sup> this was, however, frustrated by Aurangzeb who sent

1. E. M. II., VII, 323 ; 332 ; 336 ; 348.

2. Do. VII, 312.

3. E. M. II., VII, 322.

4. *Ain*, I, 50.

5. See Note 4, p. 3.

6. The State account says, Bhārtī Chand tried to seize it. I have retained the contemporary account.

his officials to interfere. In about 1700 Dalpat Rao became commander of the advance guard in Zulfikār's army in succession to Dāud Khān Panni and fought at Parnāla,<sup>1</sup> receiving a *mansab* of 3,000 soon after, and also took part in the fight at Wākinkhera.

In the disputes which arose between Shāh Alam Bahādur Shāh, and Azam Shāh, Dalpat Rao sided with the latter, and it was, says the historian, mainly to his valour and that of his bosom friend Rājā Rām Singh of Kotah that Zulfikār Khān, Azam's general, trusted for success. In the battle of Jājau (July 19th, 1707) Dalpat Rao was mortally wounded and died soon after, his friend Rām Singh also falling in the onset.<sup>2</sup> Dalpat Rao's cenotaph still stands in a garden at Jājau.

Dalpat Rao married three Rānis : one was a daughter of the Dhanderā of Chandāvali who bore no children, the second, Rāni Chand Kunwar, was daughter of the Pamār of Nōner, and bore Rām Chandra, afterwards chief ; the third was Rāni Gūmān Kunwar, daughter of the Pamār of Berehīha, and bore four sons, Chand, Prithī Singh, Senāpati, and Karanju ; Prithī Singh<sup>3</sup> received Seondha in jāgīr, and Senāpati obtained Khāsgī, near Nadigaon in British India, while the others lived at Datīā.

Rām Chandra did not succeed without a struggle. On the death of Dalpat Rao, Bhārtī Chand, the younger brother, gathered a party together and disputed the succession. Rao Rām Chandra appealed to Mahārājā Udot Singh of Orchhā who supported his claims. A struggle then ensued in which Bhārtī Chand continued to give trouble until he died in 1711. Rām Chandra went to Delhi where he was well received by the Emperor Bahādur Shāh, who gave him a *khilat* and the same *mansab* as his father had held, confirming him in possession of his State.

Rām  
Chandra<sup>4</sup>.  
(1707-36).

On his accession the Emperor Farukhshiyār sent Nawāb Sukram Khān to Datīā with an Imperial *farmān*, a *khilat*, sword of honour and many presents. In 1714 Rām Chandra visited the Emperor at Delhi. The Emperor had ordered that all should attend *darbārs* unarmed. Rām Chandra, however, went fully armed, and the Emperor pleased, it is said, with his courage, praised him instead of blaming him. Like his predecessors

1. E. M. II., VII, 370.

2. Do. 396; Tod's *Rājasthān* (Calcutta Edition), I, 370; II, 162; *Memoirs of Itādat Khān*, pp. 17-37.

3. He distinguished himself in 1712 in the attack on Azam Shāh's camp, and as the leader of Jahāndar Shāh's vanguard—J. B. A., LXV, 118.

4. The State account is here hopelessly confused, but has been checked from other sources as far as possible.

children. Indrajit died at Datiā in 1762, and was succeeded by his son Shatrujit.

**Shatrujīt (1762-1801).** The first event in which Shatrujīt was concerned was the succession to the Orchhā *gaddi*. Rājā Hātō Singh died in 1768, and his widow tried to put her brother, a Pamār, on the *gaddi* instead of Kunwar Dulāju or Kunwar Vikramūjīt, who had been adopted by the late Rājā. The two brothers went to Datiā and complained to Shatrujīt who assisted them, drove away the Pamārs and placed Dulāju on the *gaddi*. In return for this service Shatrujīt was given 17 villages. In 1771, however, Pajan Singh of Tahrauli seized Orchhā, driving out the Rājā and retained possession for a whole year. Vikramūjīt, however, again appealed to the Datiā chief, who sent a force under Khet Singh, Bhayadwāla, which drove out the usurper and restored Dulāju to the *gaddi*.<sup>1</sup>

In 1800 Lakwa Dāda was dismissed from office by Daulat Rao Sindhia, acting under the advice of Sarjo Rao Ghātke. Lakwa Dāda then rebelled and went over to the Rājā of Jodhpur. In November he joined the discontented *Bais*, the widows of Mahādji Sindhia, who were then in open revolt against Daulat Rao. Perron, Sindhia's commander, was . . . . of Partab Singh of Jaipur, and did not leave that place until January 1801, Lakwa, having meanwhile proceeded to Datia with a large force taking the *Bais* with him. He took up his quarters before the fort of Seondha where he had collected an army of 6,000 horse, 3,000 Bundelā troops, and 2,000 sepoys, the latter being commanded by Colonel W. H. Tone, and 16 guns. The position was a strong one, a network of ravines protecting the front for seven miles, while the fort was at his rear. Ambūji Inglia under orders from Sindhia prepared to attack him, and advanced with 5,000 horse and three brigades of regular infantry, one of the latter having been sent by Perron in command of Colonel Pedron, while a second was under James Shepherd and Joseph Bellasis, the third being under a native, Kaleb Ali.

In March 1801 the army moved on Seondha fort under Bāla Rao, Ambājī's brother, Ambājī returning to Gwalior. Lakwa Dāda had also tried to enlist the support of Jaswant Rao Holkar and Ali Bahādur of Bānda, but they held off. Perron learning of the serious turn events were taking, proceeded personally to take command. He arrived in May with a battalion of infantry and 2,000 Muhammadan horse. He found Pedron overawed by his difficulties and doing nothing. This

41. This statement of the Darbār is not correct, as Vikramājit succeeded to the Orchhā *gaddi* 8 years after the death of Hāte Singh during which period two chiefs occupied the *gaddi* of Orchhā. Vide Orchhā State Gazetteer.

dilatoriness enraged Perron who ordered a general assault on May 3rd at dawn. The troops attacked in three columns by three passes leading to Lakwa Dāda's position. Pedron was on the right with four battalions, Shepherd and Bellasis and Kaleb Ali in the centre, and Captain Symes on the left with four battalions and 2,000 Muhammadan horse. Colonel Tone, who held the pass which Pedron attacked, fought with consummate gallantry until overpowered and taken prisoner. Shepherd and Bellasis were opposed by Barār Singh whom they drove back. The left wing under Symes met with a severe defeat at the hands of the gallant Datīā chief and sustained heavy loss. On hearing of this Perron took two battalions from Pedron and placed himself at their head. After rallying and reforming the routed troops, he led them back to the assault with the greatest personal daring and courage. Inspired by his presence and example, the men answered to his appeal and the position was now stormed with complete success. The old Rājā of Datīā fought until he was mortally wounded, having been recognised by the enemy from an umbrella, held over his head by a servant, whilst Perron was himself injured by a spear thrust during the attack. Barār Singh was killed and Lakwa Dāda wounded, the *Bais* escaping. The camp was plundered on the flight of the troops. The severity of the fighting may be gauged from the fact that Pedron had 1,000 men killed and wounded, including among the latter two European officers. In the centre Bellasis was killed, and 1,500 men were killed and wounded, while Symes and another European were wounded. There is no doubt that but for Perron's gallantry, Sindhia's army would have been badly beaten, if not annihilated. Tradition states that Shatrujīt himself gave Perron his spear wound and adds that he died from it. The last statement is not true as Perron retired in 1803, and died in France in 1834.<sup>1</sup>

Shatrujīt married six wives. Rānī Anand Kunwar, daughter of the Pamār of Nanora, bore him a son Pārichhat, and five others who bore no children.

Rājā Pārichhat, who succeeded on Shatrujīt's death, made some ineffectual attempts to recover his lost territory from the Mārāthās, and did actually succeed in taking and looting Bhānder. In 1804 he received information that Captain Baillie, Agent to the Governor-General in Bundelkhand, was touring in the neighbourhood, and at once proceeded to Nadigaon where he was in camp. A treaty<sup>2</sup> of alliance was made on March 15th, 1804, at Koonjun Ghāt, which still governs the relationships between the State and the British Government. In 1818 Lord

Pārichhat  
(1801-39).

1. H. Compton, *European Military Adventurers of Hindusthan*, 39.

2. Appendix A

Hastings visited Datiā where he was received by the Chief. In recognition of his good services in securing peace the *Chaurāti-ilāka*, the tract of land including Indargarh, was made over to him.

The Rājā visited Lord Amherst at Cawnpore in 1824, and in 1825 Lord Combermere stopped at Datiā, and a *darbār* was held in his honour.<sup>1</sup> In 1836 the Rājā who had no heir adopted Bijai Bahādur, a foundling, whom he had picked up and educated. This adoption, which was recognised by Government, caused great umbrage to the Thākurs of Baroni, who considered that the adoption should have been made from their family, as the descendants of the founder of the State. In December 1835, Colonel Sleeman visited the Chief, and has left a very full account of his visit in "Rambles and Recollections," (Chapter XXXI and XXXII). He describes the Rājā as "a stout cheerful old gentleman (he was then 65) as careless, apparently about his own dress as about that of his soldiers." He was then suffering from an attack of sciatica which he had had for 12 years, and which had deprived him of the use of one of his legs. The Chief was on this occasion attended by a mounted band "who carried guitars and played upon them, and sang in a very agreeable style."<sup>2</sup> Sleeman had never seen such a band before.

In 1829 Lord William Bentinck held a *darbār* at Kaitha which Rājā Pārichhat attended. Rājā Pārichhat died in 1839 at 70 years of age.

Bijai Bahādur  
(1839-57).

Bijai Bahādur succeeded to the *gaddi*. He was very religious and a great patron of *pandits*, spending large sums at Bonāres, Bindrāban and elsewhere. No events of importance occurred in his day, though he died just after the outbreak of the Mutiny in 1857.

Bhawānī Singh  
(1857-1907).

Bijai Bahādur was followed by Bhawānī Singh, adopted from the Bhasnai family. The Bhasnai family are descended from Har Singh Dev, a brother of Rājā Bir Singh Dev of Orchhā. During the Mutiny the regent Rāni did all she could to assist the British. She died in 1858, and the second Rāni Prān Kunwar was made regent.

After the establishment of peace in India, disturbances arose in the State, as the regent Rāni began to support the pretensions of Arjun Singh, an illegitimate son of Bijai Bahādur to the *gaddi*, in place of Bhawānī Singh. At length matters reached an *impasse* when the Rāni and her adherents seized the Seondha fort and defied authority. A British force was

<sup>1</sup> J. Mundy—*Pen and Pencil Sketches of a Tour in India*, II, 101-66.

<sup>2</sup> These were perhaps the Arabi bājas received by Indrajit.

then sent into the State, the fort was taken and the Rānī obliged to submit. Arjun Singh was exiled to Benāres, but subsequently lived at Nowgong, where he died in 1887. The Rānī was placed under surveillance, and other leaders were imprisoned in Chunār fort, while the State was put under the superintendence of a British Officer.

The claims of the Baronī branch of the family to the succession were again brought forward and rejected in 1861. In 1882 a question of much importance to the State, which had been pending for many years, was decided. It related to the devolution of shares in the Baronī *jāgīr*. The main point involved was the origin of this estate, and it was definitely ruled that the *jāgīr* was a grant entirely independent of Datiā, made from Delhi, and that Mahārājā could not, therefore, claim to stand in the same relation to Baronī as he might to *jāgīrdārs* holding under a grant from the State, though the Thākurs must be considered as politically subordinate to Datiā.<sup>1</sup>

The most important events which have taken place during the late Chief's time were, the receipt of an adoption *sanad* in 1862, the abolition of all transit dues in the same year, the salt convention of 1879 by which the British Government undertook to pay Rs. 10,000 in lieu of duties formerly levied, the cession of land for the Betwā Canal in 1882, and for the railway in 1884 (actually opened in 1888), and the conversion of the currency in 1903.

Many reforms were introduced during the minority of the late Chief, the most important being the establishment of regular judicial courts, and the opening of a High School in the chief town. In 1865 the administration was entrusted to the Chief.

The Chief in 1866 attended the *darbār* held at Agra by Lord Lawrence; in 1875 he was presented to the Prince of Wales (now King Edward VII); in 1877 he attended the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, where he received the title of Lokendra as an hereditary distinction, and was given a banner and gold commemorative medal. In 1880 the yearly fair of the *Rām Līla* was instituted, which is attended by large numbers of *sādhus* from all over India, who are entertained by the State at considerable expense for about a month. In 1894-95 Bhawānī Singh, accompanied by his son the Rājā Bahādur, visited Benāres and other sacred places. The famine of 1897 was an occasion of great trial to the Darbār, but was met with a promptness and energy which were recognised by the bestowal of a K.C.S.I. on the Chief, and the title of Rao Bahādur on Jānki Prasād, the Diwān. In March 1902 the Rājā Bahādur, Govind Singh, married Chandra Kunwar, daughter of Rao

1. Aitchison's *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads* (1893), Vol. V, p. 11.

Randhir Singh of Khour-Mānpura. In the same year, Lord Curzon, then Viceroy, visited the State. In 1903 the Chief and his son attended the Coronation *darbār*, where the former received a gold medal. They afterwards visited Hardwār, Calcutta and Puri. In 1905 both were presented to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales at Indore.

**Govind Singh  
(1907-)**

**Titles.**

**Archaeology.**

Bhawānī Singh died on the 4th August 1907 and was succeeded by his only son Govind Singh.

The Datia chief bears the titles of His Highness Mahārāja and Lokendra and enjoys a salute of 15 guns.

Few buildings of any architectural or archaeological merit stand in the State, except the magnificent 18th century palace of Bir Singh Dov, and that of Subhakaran, both at Datia. A temple of the Sun stands at Unaō which has a great reputation for sanctity. It contains a circular stone representation of the Sun surrounded by the *naragraha* or nine planets. At the *Rangpanchmi* festival in March, large numbers visit the shrine, and bathe in the waters of the adjoining tank, which are supposed to cure leprosy and other skin affections.

### Section III—Population.

#### (TABLES III TO VI.)

**Enumerations.**

Three enumerations have taken place giving in 1881 a population of 182,598; 1891, 186,440; 1901, 173,759; males 90,350, females 83,409.

**Variation and Density.**

The variation between 1891 and 1901 amounted to a decrease of 7 per cent. The density is 190 persons to the square mile.

**Towns and Villages.**

Of the 458 inhabited towns and villages<sup>1</sup> situated in the State 373 have a population of under 500; 65 of between 500 and 1,000; 13 of 1,000 to 2,000; 5 of 2,000 to 5,000; 1 of between 5,000 to 10,000 and the chief town of over 20,000.

**Migration.**

Of the total population 136,329 or 78 per cent. were born within the State, and 144,944 or 83 per cent. within Bundelkhand. Of those coming from elsewhere, 17,130 came from other States in Central India, and 11,680 from Rājputāna and British India.

**Sex and Civil Condition.**

The ratio of females to males is 92 to 100, and of wives to husbands 864 to 1,000 for the whole State, and 951 to 1,000 for the rural area only.

**Religions.**

Classified by religions the population showed 166,170 or 95 per cent. Hindus, 7,095 or 4 per cent. Musalmāns, 485 Jains and 9 Animists.

**Language and Literacy.**

The prevailing language is Bundelkhandī spoken by 141,466 or 81 percent. of the population, the next most important forms

1. The Darbār now report 520 villages, an increase of 62 since the Census of 1901.

of speech being Hindi and Urdu. Of the whole population 3,608 or 2 per cent. are literate, 102 being females.

The predominating castes are Brāhmans 14 per cent., Chamārs 11 per cent., Kāchhīs 8 per cent., and Rājputs and Baniās 5 per cent.

Agricultural and pastoral pursuits occupy 38 per cent. of the population, and general labour 15 per cent. while 7 per cent. follow domestic service.

The dress of a man usually consists of a *dhotī*, *kurta*, also called *alphua*, *banda*, and *pagrī* or *sāfa*.

The *dhotī* is loin cloth, which after one or two turns round the waist is taken through between the legs from behind and brought up in front, where it is tucked into the folds at the waist; the *kurta* is a sort of shirt, the *banda* is a coat which is worn over it. In cold weather the *mirzai*, a short padded coat is also used. The *pagrī* or *sāfa* forms the head covering. The former is a made up head dress, the latter merely a piece of cloth twisted on the head. *Pagrīs* and *sāfas* are often ornamented with gold embroidery. A *dupatta*, a piece of local cloth, is carried by the well-to-do, or occasionally used as a *shāwl*. The cloth used in these garments varies with the position and wealth of the wearer.

The shoes worn by the Bundelkhand peasants are remarkable for their high heel piece and large flap over the instep.

The lowest classes and jungle tribes wear only the *dhotī* and a piece of cloth on the head.

Women's dress consists of the *dhotī*, *sārī*, *ghāgra* and *cholī*. The *sārī* is a long piece of cloth which covers the entire body from head to foot. It passes round the waist across the breast and over the shoulders a loose end being used to throw over the head. It also passes between the legs leaving the calves and ankles free. The *cholī* is a bodice covering the breast.

All classes live mainly on vegetables. The poorer people eat *kodon*, *sāmān* and the cheap pulses, while the well-to-do eat rice, wheat and gram, etc. Meat is but little eaten except by the lower classes. As condiments, various spices, *ghī* and buttermilk are used. Water is the ordinary drink, the only liquor being that distilled from the flowers of the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*).

The cultivator goes to his fields or the pastures soon after daybreak and remains at his work till sun-down. The tradesman opens his shop at about 7 A. M. and continues to serve customers till 8 P. M. The shops selling sweetmeats, drink and cooked food remain open to much later hour.

Castes.

Occupations.

SOCIAL  
CHARACTER-  
ISTICS.

Dress.

Food.

Daily Life.

## Houses.

The huts of the poorer classes are of mud with tiled or thatched roofs, tiles being commonest except in the jungles. In towns and large villages substantial houses of brick are met with, often of two storeys in height.

## Marriage.

The ceremonies and customs observed at marriages do not differ from those observed elsewhere. The expenses attendant on the ceremony vary with the position of the people.

## Disposal of dead.

The Hindus burn their dead except ascetics and infants who are buried. The ashes of the corpse are conveyed to a sacred river or some local stream. Musalmāns bury their dead.

## Festivals.

The festivals observed are numerous. The most important among the Hindus are the *Dasahra*, *Diwāli* and *Holi*.

## Dasahra.

The *dasahra* falls in the month of *Kūničār* (or *Ashwin*). It commences on the first day of the light half and lasts ten days, the last or tenth day (*dasahra*), falling in September or October being celebrated with great pomp. The nine nights preceding are known as the *navarātri*, and are devoted to worship of arms, horses, elephants and other appurtenances of war as the *dasahra* marking the end of the rains was in former days the season for the recommencement of wars and forays.

## Diwali.

The *diwāli* or feast of lamps (*diyā*, lamp, and *awali*, row) falls in *Kārtik*. It commences on the 13th of the dark half of the month, known as the *dhan-teras* or "13th of wealth," this festival being specially dedicated to Lakshmi as goddess of prosperity and wealth. On the 14th Yama, the god of the lower regions, who is also connected with riches, is worshipped and on the 15th the *amāvāsyā* or day of the new moon all houses are illuminated and fireworks are let off. This feast marks the new commercial year on which all business men close their accounts and open their new books.

## Holi.

The *holi* falls in the spring. It commences ten days before the full moon of *Phāgūn* (February-March).

The distinguishing feature in the observances is the throwing of a red powder called *gulāl*, with which everything and everybody are covered.

Among Musalmāns the principal feast is the *Id-ul-fitr* which marks the conclusion of the fast of *Ramzān*.

## Nomenclature.

Hindu boys are called by two names, the *janma rāshi nām* or name used in making out the horoscope and the *bolta nām* or name for every day use. These names are given after those of the deities such as Rām Chandra, Govind Singh, Nārāyan, etc., after heroes in the great epics such as Bhim Singh, Arjun Singh, etc., and also mere fanciful names like Chhote Lāl, Mitthu Lāl

Girls are similarly named, *viz.*, Subhadra, Lachhmi, Bichitra, &c. Among Muhammadans names connected with the service of God and religion are commonest, such as Maulādād Khān, Abdullah, Sayad Karīm, etc.

The health of the State has been excellent during the last 20 years, except for the sickness which always accompanies famine, from which the State suffered in 1897 and 1905.

## Houses.

The huts of the poorer classes are of mud with tiled or thatched roofs, tiles being commonest except in the jungles. In towns and large villages substantial houses of brick are met with, often of two storeys in height.

## Marriage.

The ceremonies and customs observed at marriages do not differ from those observed elsewhere. The expenses attendant on the ceremony vary with the position of the people.

## Disposal of dead.

The Hindus burn their dead except ascetics and infants who are buried. The ashes of the corpse are conveyed to a sacred river or some local stream. Musalmāns bury their dead.

## Festivals.

The festivals observed are numerous. The most important among the Hindus are the *Dasahra*, *Diwāli* and *Holi*.

## Dasahra.

The *dasahra* falls in the month of *Kārtik* (or *Ashvinī*). It commences on the first day of the light half and lasts ten days, the last or tenth day (*dasahra*), falling in September or October being celebrated with great pomp. The nine nights preceding are known as the *navarātri*, and are devoted to worship of arms, horses, elephants and other appurtenances of war as the *dasahra* marking the end of the rains was in former days the season for the recommencement of wars and forays.

## Diwāli.

The *diwāli* or feast of lamps (*dīpa*, lamp, and *aicāli*, row) falls in *Kārtik*. It commences on the 13th of the dark half of the month, known as the *dhan-teras* or "13th of wealth," this festival being specially dedicated to Lakshmī as goddess of prosperity and wealth. On the 14th Yama, the god of the lower regions, who is also connected with riches, is worshipped and on the 15th the *amāvāsyā* or day of the new moon all houses are illuminated and fireworks are let off. This feast marks the new commercial year on which all business men close their accounts and open their new books.

## Holi.

The *holi* falls in the spring. It commences ten days before the full moon of *Phāgūn* (February-March).

The distinguishing feature in the observances is the throwing of a red powder called *gulāl*, with which everything and everybody are covered.

Among Musalmāns the principal feast is the *Id-ul-fitr* which marks the conclusion of the fast of *Ramzān*.

## Nomenclature.

Hindu boys are called by two names, the *janma rāshi nām* or name used in making out the horoscope and the *holta nām* or name for every day use. These names are given after those of the deities such as Rām Chandra, Govind Singh, Nārāyan, etc., after heroes in the great epics such as Bhīm Singh, Arjun Singh, etc., and also mere fanciful names like Chhote Lāl, Mittu Lāl

Girls are similarly named, *viz.*, Subhadra, Lachhmi, Bichitra, &c. Among Muhammadans names connected with the service of God and religion are commonest, such as Maulādād Khān, Abdullah, Sayad Karīm, etc.

The health of the State has been excellent during the last 20 years, except for the sickness which always accompanies famine, from which the State suffered in 1897 and 1905.

CHAPTER II.  
ECONOMIC.  
(TABLES VII TO XV, XXVIII TO XXX.)  
Section I.—Agriculture.  
(TABLES VII, X AND XXVIII.)

General conditions.

The general conditions prevailing over the State do not differ very materially, though good soil is more abundant in the northern than in the southern section. The whole area is entirely dependent on the rainfall for its productivity, irrigation being but little practised.

Classes of soil.

Many classes of soil are recognised by the cultivator of which the main varieties are *manta* or *mār*, a black soil found usually in pockets where the intrusive dykes of trap have disintegrated; *kāwar*, a lighter soil of somewhat similar composition; *parua*, a yellowish loam very distinctive of the alluvial tract; *rānkar* is a more stony soil; and *pathri*, a mere heap of stones and gravel with very little soil at all. *Kachhawāra* and *tari* are the fertile soils found along the banks of streams and in the beds of tanks. Other classes are known as *barai* or land growing sugar-cane; *retiya*, sandy land; *īsar*, land too stiff for cultivation and the like.

Seasons.

Two seasons are recognised, the autumn season known as the *siārī* or *kharīf*, and the spring season, the *unhārī* or *rabi*. In the former *jowār*, *bājra*, *kodon*, etc., are sown and in the latter, wheat, gram and barley. The autumn season lasts from about May to October, and the latter from October to March, the actual duration varying with the nature of the rainfall.

Area cultivated.

The average area cultivated in a normal year amounts to 287,900 acres or 49 per cent. of the total area of the State, 6,900 acres or 2 per cent. of the cultivated area being irrigated. The actual figures show no appreciable variation whatever, but it is probable that they are not very exact, as some diminution, at least in the irrigated area, resulted from the famine of 1897.

Agricultural practice.

For the *kharīf* crop the land is ploughed once roughly so as to prepare it to receive the first showers and also clear it of weeds. After rain has fallen, it is thoroughly ploughed, as soon as the surface is sufficiently dry not to ball on the animal's hoofs, it is usual to cross plough. Seed is then sown.

Sowings

The larger classes such as *jowār* are sown through a drill, and small seed broadcast. Crops are weeded when necessary. Reaping takes place in the case of the *kharīf* crops in about October or November. In the case of *jowār*, *bājra* and maize, the heads only are cut off, but in other cases the whole plant is taken.

Double-cropping.

This is practised wherever water is sufficient to admit of irrigation. Poppy, barley, wheat and garden crops are those

generally sown as a second crop after *jowār* or maize. The area sown is about 2,500 acres.

This is not very systematically practised though the cultivator is well aware of the exhausting nature of some crops, and the recuperative power of others. The commonest series are *jowār*, *arhar*, and *urad* with wheat and cotton, the series varying with local conditions such as manuring and the supply of water, etc.

The cultivator is very fond of mixed sowings as they protect him against vicissitudes of the season. Rice is sown with *jowār*, *jowār* with *arhar* and gram with barley or even wheat. Another consideration is the double-crop which can thus be obtained from one ploughing. The area thus sown is about 800 acres.

Manure is little used except in fields near villages and then only on irrigable land. Village sweepings, cow dung and the dung of sheep and goats are used.

The chief pests are deer, insects, white ants, locusts, rats and weevils among animals, and blight and weeds among growths. The insects include flies, borers and caterpillars which often do considerable damage, borers especially attacking sugarcane; rats always appear after a year of deficient rainfall, while *kāns* grass (*Imperata spontanea*) at times entirely absorbs large areas, particularly if they have been left fallow for sometime.

The most important implements of the cultivator are the plough or *hal*, the *patelāh*, *bākhar*, or harrow and the *khurpa* or hoe. The *nārī* or seed drill, *hansia* or sickle, *kudāra*, and *phāora*, or pickaxe spade, may also be mentioned.

The area sown at the *kharīf* and *rabi* amounts in normal years to 287,800 acres, the chief crops being *kodon* covering 1,100 acres, *jowār* 65,500, *bājra* 9,900, rice 2,300, wheat 82,100 and gram 74,300.

The crops sown in the autumn are *jundī*, *jowār* (*Sorghum vulgare*), *bājra* (*Pencillaria spicata*), *urad* (*Phaseolus radiatus*), *arhar* (*Cajanus indicus*), *kodon* (*Paspalum stoloniferum*), *mūng* (*Phaseolus mungo*), *sāmān* (*Panicum frumentaceum*), *kutkī* (*P. miliare*), *rāli* (*P. miliaceum*), *tilī* (*Sesamum indicum*), *makai* or maize (*Zea mays*) and *kurathī* (*Doliches unifloros*).

The chief spring crops are *gehūn* or wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), *chana* or gram (*Cicer arietinum*), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), *masūr* (*Ervum lens*).

*Tilī* (*Sesamum indicum*), *alsi* or linseed (*Linum usitatissimum*), *sarson* (*Brassica campestris*) and *suān* (*Eruca sativa*) are the commonest.

The only important fibre is *kapās* or cotton (*Gossypium indicum*) which covers about 52,400 acres. A little *amāri* or *pātsan*, Deccan hemp (*Hibiscus cannabinus*), is also sown.

Rotation.

Mixed sowings.

Manures.

Pests.

Implements.

Crops.  
Area sown  
(Table X).

Kharīf crops.

Rabi crops.

Oil-seeds.

Fibres.

## CHAPTER II.

### ECONOMIC.

(TABLES VII TO XV, XXVIII TO XXX.)

#### Section I.—Agriculture.

(TABLES VII, X AND XXVIII.)

General conditions.

The general conditions prevailing over the State do not differ very materially, though good soil is more abundant in the northern than in the southern section. The whole area is entirely dependent on the rainfall for its productivity, irrigation being but little practised.

Classes of soil.

Many classes of soil are recognised by the cultivator of which the main varieties are *mauta* or *mār*, a black soil found usually in pockets where the intrusive dykes of trap have disintegrated; *kākar*, a lighter soil of somewhat similar composition; *parua*, a yellowish loam very distinctive of the alluvial tract; *rānkar* is a more stony soil; and *pathri*, a mere heap of stones and gravel with very little soil at all. *Kachhawāra* and *tari* are the fertile soils found along the banks of streams and in the beds of tanks. Other classes are known as *barai* or land growing sugar-cane; *retiya*, sandy land; *ūsar*, land too stiff for cultivation and the like.

Seasons.

Two seasons are recognised, the autumn season known as the *siārī* or *kharif*, and the spring season, the *uhārī* or *rabi*. In the former *jowār*, *bājra*, *kodon*, etc., are sown and in the latter, wheat, gram and barley. The autumn season lasts from about May to October, and the latter from October to March, the actual duration varying with the nature of the rainfall.

Area cultivated.

The average area cultivated in a normal year amounts to 287,900 acres or 49 per cent. of the total area of the State, 6,900 acres or 2 per cent. of the cultivated area being irrigated. The actual figures show no appreciable variation whatever, but it is probable that they are not very exact, as some diminution, at least in the irrigated area, resulted from the famine of 1897.

For the *kharif* crop the land is ploughed once roughly so as to prepare it to receive the first showers and also clear it of weeds. After rain has fallen, it is thoroughly ploughed, as soon as the surface is sufficiently dry not to ball on the animal's hoofs, it is usual to cross plough. Seed is then sown.

The larger classes such as *jowār* are sown through a drill, and small seed broadcast. Crops are weeded when necessary. Reaping takes place in the case of the *kharif* crops in about October or November. In the case of *jowār*, *bājra* and maize, the heads only are cut off, but in other cases the whole plant is taken.

Double-cropping.

This is practised wherever water is sufficient to admit of irrigation. Poppy, barley, wheat and garden crops are those

generally sown as a second crop after *jowār* or maize. The area sown is about 2,500 acres.

This is not very systematically practised though the cultivator is well aware of the exhausting nature of some crops, and the recuperative power of others. The commonest series are *jowār*, *arhar*, and *urad* with wheat and cotton, the series varying with local conditions such as manuring and the supply of water, etc.

The cultivator is very fond of mixed sowings as they protect him against vicissitudes of the season. Rice is sown with *jowār*, *jowār* with *arhar* and gram with barley or even wheat. Another consideration is the double-crop which can thus be obtained from one ploughing. The area thus sown is about 800 acres.

Manure is little used except in fields near villages and then only on irrigable land. Village sweepings, cow dung and the dung of sheep and goats are used.

The chief pests are deer, insects, white ants, locusts, rats and weevils among animals, and blight and weeds among growths. The insects include flies, borers and caterpillars which often do considerable damage, borers especially attacking sugarcane; rats always appear after a year of deficient rainfall, while *kāns* grass (*Imperata spontanea*) at times entirely absorbs large areas, particularly if they have been left fallow for sometime.

The most important implements of the cultivator are the plough or *hal*, the *paiṭālāh*, *bakkhar*, or harrow and the *khurpa* or hoe. The *nārī* or seed drill, *hansia* or sickle, *kudāra*, and *phāora*, or pickaxe spade, may also be mentioned.

The area sown at the *kharīf* and *rabi* amounts in normal years to 287,800 acres, the chief crops being *kodon* covering 1,100 acres, *jowār* 65,500, *bājra* 9,900, rice 2,300, wheat 82,100 and gram 74,300.

The crops sown in the autumn are *jundī*, *jowār* (*Sorghum vulgare*), *bājra* (*Pencillaria spicata*), *urad* (*Phaseolus radiatus*), *arhar* (*Cajanus indicus*), *kodon* (*Paspalum stoloniferum*), *mūng* (*Phaseolus mungo*), *sāmān* (*Panicum frumentaceum*), *kutkī* (*P. miliare*), *rāli* (*P. miliaceum*), *tilī* (*Sesamum indicum*), makai or maize (*Zea mays*) and *kurathī* (*Doliches unifloros*).

The chief spring crops are *gehūn* or wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), *chana* or gram (*Cicer arietinum*), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), *masūr* (*Ervum lens*).

*Tilī* (*Sesamum indicum*), *alsi* or linseed (*Linum usitatissimum*), *sarson* (*Brassica campestris*) and *suān* (*Eruca sativa*) are the commonest.

The only important fibre is *kapās* or cotton (*Gossypium indicum*) which covers about 52,400 acres. A little *amāri* or *pātsan*, Deccan hemp (*Hibiscus cannabinus*), is also sown.

Rotation.

Mixed sowings.

Manures.

Pests.

Implements.

Crops.  
Area sown  
(Table X).

Kharīf crops.

Rabi crops.

Oil-seeds.

Fibres.

- Drugs.** Poppy is sown to an insignificant extent over about 100 acres, and hemp for *gānja* and *bhang* over a very small area.
- Garden produce.** The ordinary vegetables sown are potatoes, radishes, garlic, onions, *zira* (*Cummin*), *dhania* (*Coriander*), many kinds of gourds, carrots, brinjals (*Solanum melongena*) and numerous native plants.
- Sugarcane called *barai* and *pān* or betel (*Piper betel*), though strictly not garden products, are always sown close to villages on garden land.
- Fruit trees.** include custard-apple, mango, pomegranate, plantain, orange, *jāmūn*, jack fruit and other plants.
- Progress.** The only new machine introduced is the roller sugarcane mill, which is taking the place of the old stone press. No new varieties of seed have been introduced; a few kinds imported from outside did not give satisfactory results.
- Irrigation.** The area irrigated amounts to 6,900 acres or about 2 per cent. of the total cultivated area.
- Sources.** Tanks, wells and *nālas* are used as sources. The former are the most common, the water being led off by channels. From wells water is ordinarily raised by the Persian wheel.
- Wells.** A well when bricked costs about Rs. 500, and a simple earthen well Rs. 100.
- Canal.** The Betwā Canal traverses a part of the State, but is not used for irrigation.
- Cattle (Table VII).** Though cattle are reared in most villages, no local breed is of special note.
- Cattle fairs (Table XXVIII).** There are no cattle fairs of any special importance in the State.
- Pasture grounds.** Pasture grounds are ample in a normal year. Every village has its pasture land, while soils which are useless for cultivation or are lying fallow always bear grass, and are used as pasture land or reserved for making hay. No difficulty is ever experienced as regards fodder either in an ordinary year or one of scarcity. Besides grass, *karbi* or dried *jorčār* stalks are used for feeding cattle. The supply is usually in excess of local requirements, and a considerable quantity is sold.
- Cattle diseases.** The commonest cattle disease is foot and mouth disease in which the hoofs become affected. The usual remedy resorted to in such cases is to stand the animal in the mud of a tank. Another common remedy is to describe a *jantra* (symbolical figure) for the prevention of the disease and exorcism of the evil eye. Incantation or the quoting of *mantras* is also used as a means of destroying germs; kerosine oil and tobacco and *bach* (aconite) are sometimes put into the ulcers. Other diseases are small-pox in which buttermilk and gram-flour are mixed together and given to the animal, or it is made to eat *ghī*;

*bhonra* in which the animal is seized with giddiness, falls down and dies; *girra*, when an animal remains in a standing position and is unable to move or use its limbs, in which case country liquor is given to it; *ilai kurāra*, which affects the tongue and is cured by cauterising the affected part with a red hot iron; and *tila* in which the animal coughs, and country liquor is given and powdered iron stone mixed with flour.

The agricultural population consists mainly of Kurmis, Kāchhis, Lodhis and a few other castes.

Takkāvi advances are freely granted to the cultivators for the construction of wells. Interest is charged at 12 per cent. per annum, the loans being re-payable in 5 years. Grain is also given for sowing and is re-paid on the *sawain* system, the amount lent plus  $\frac{1}{4}$  being recovered at the harvest.

### Section II.—Wages and Prices.

#### (TABLES XIII AND XIV.)

Information on wages and prices is given in the tables. A slight rise has taken place in the districts of late years, in both wages and prices and a marked rise in Datiā town.

Agricultural population.

Takkāvi.

Wages and Prices.

For agricultural operations, wages are paid in kind, a man getting from 4 to 5 seers of grain a day.

The material condition of the people is, generally speaking, good. Those employed in offices are less well off than the agriculturist who in normal years is fairly well-to-do.

Material condition.

### Section III.—Forests.

#### (TABLE IX.)

There is no real forest in the State though a considerable area lies under scrub jungle. These jungles are divided into two classes, *bara* or principal, and *chhota* or subordinate. The first class is subdivided into two kinds, viz., open and preserved. In the case of *bara* jungle no grass or wood can be cut without permission. In *chhota* jungle cattle are allowed to graze, but no wood is allowed to be cut. A small duty is levied from people who collect dry wood and sell it. In the famine year a reduction was made in the tax.

Classification.

The State forest officer is in immediate charge. He is assisted by *nākādārs* who collect the dues and *banrakhs* or forest guards who patrol the reserved area. On certain occasions villagers are allowed wood, etc., free of dues; these occasions are those of marriages and a few other celebrations. In famine time the whole area is thrown open. The total revenue derived amounts to Rs. 10,000, and the expenditure to Rs. 4,000. A list of the commonest trees is appended.

Control.

WEIGHTS  
AND  
MEASURES.  
Precious  
stones and  
metals.

Material  
substances  
avoirdupois.

Capacity.

Length.

Official year,

Railways.

Roads  
(Table XV).

Conveyances.  
Post and  
Telegraph  
(Table XXIX)

Precious stones and metals are weighed by the *rattī*, the highest weight being the *tanka*.

$$1 \text{ Rattī} = 20 \text{ Biswa}.$$

$$1 \text{ Biswa} = 1 \text{ Alsi} \text{ (grain of linseed).}$$

In the case of precious stones, also 1 *gaungachi* (*rattī*) = 8 *dhāni* (rice grain) and 8 *gaungachi* = 1 *māsha*. In the case of silver and gold the *tola* (= 1 British rupee) is now commonly taken as the standard.

General articles are weighed by the *seer* and *maund*, the lowest measure is the  $\frac{1}{2}$  *chhatāk* which is equal to 2 *Bālāshāhī* pice or 14 *māshas* in weight.

$$16 \text{ chhatāks} \text{ (64 } Bālāshāhī \text{ pice)} = 1 \text{ seer}, 40 \text{ seers} = 1 \text{ maund}.$$

In villages the measure called *varaiya* and pice are more used. They are made of wood or brass and are used with grain.

$$1 \text{ Pice} = 6\frac{1}{4} \text{ Seers.}$$

$$1 \text{ Varaiya} = \frac{1}{10} \text{ of a pice.}$$

$$1 \text{ Panseri} = \frac{1}{4} \text{ Varaiya, 5 seers.}$$

Oil and *ghī* are measured in vessels of two kinds, the *pakka* and *kachcha*, the latter being used in villages. The measures are made of brass and pottery. A *pakka* seer is equal to 30 *takkas* (60 *Gajāshāhī* pice and a *kachcha* seer is equal to 20 *takkas*, i. e., 40 pice *Gajāshāhī*). Liquor is sold by the bottle.

The *gaj* or yard of 38 inches is generally used in piece-goods, and one of 39 inches in measuring land, masonry work, etc.

A chain is used in surveying fields; the *bigha* (1.96 acre) being the standard.

The official year lasts from 1st July to 30th June; the people use the Vikram Samvat commencing on *Chait Sudī* 1st.

### Section VII.—Means of Communication.

The Midland Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway passes for 21 miles through the State with stations at Datiā and Sonāgir. The opening of this line in 1881 at once had a marked effect on the commerce of the State, and in years of scarcity and famine has proved of incalculable benefit.

The total mileage of metalled road in the State is 66. The first road opened was the Jhānsi-Gwalior, of which the 36 miles lie in the State; it was constructed by the Darbār in 1855, and afterwards taken over by the British Government; other metalled roads are those to Baroni (4 miles), to Unaō (10) and to Jhānsi (16).

Except in Datiā town sprung carts are not often used.

An Imperial combined post and telegraph office has been opened in Datiā town, branch offices at Seondha and Sonāgir. A State post office system is also working. This system was

established in 1893. Before that, all letters were sent from the British post office to the nearest *thāna* or *talsil* office. Three postal lines run from Datū to Nadigaon (56 miles), Kamad (16) and Ronija (14). Ten village offices have been opened besides the headquarter offices. About 2,000 State letters and 2,500 from British offices are carried yearly. The stamps used are local, bearing the effigy of the god Ganesh and the value in Hindi. The revenue from this source falls short of the expenditure as a rule.

Eight ferries are maintained on the Sind river at Choraghāt, Sunāri ( $25^{\circ} 50'$  N.,  $78^{\circ} 29'$  E.), Uchād ( $25^{\circ} 53'$  N.,  $78^{\circ} 30'$  E.), Lānch ( $25^{\circ} 55'$  N.,  $78^{\circ} 33'$  E.), Kanjoli ( $26^{\circ} 0'$  N.,  $78^{\circ} 41'$  E.), Berchha ( $26^{\circ} 6'$  N.,  $78^{\circ} 45'$  E.), Bedarghāt and Kanhanghāt. At Nadigaon the Pahūj is crossed by a ferry.

Ferries.

### Section VIII.—Famine.

#### (TABLE XXX.)

Famine or scarcity attacked the State in 1812, 1837, 1877, 1897 and 1905.

The most serious famine was that of 1897, in which the whole population suffered very severely. Relief works were opened, and charitable aid given to all who needed it. No difficulty was experienced in obtaining grain, but it was not always easy to reach those who were suffering. The cost to the State was about 7 lakhs.

Famine of  
1896-97.

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

(TABLES XVI TO XXVII.)

#### Section I.—Administration.

- Chief.** The Chief is the supreme authority in the State, all final appeals and references being made to him in the office of *Jilās khās*.
- Dīwān.** The principal executive officer is the *dīwān* who acts by delegation of power from the Chief. He supervises the general working of all departments of the administration. He also exercises judicial powers.
- Departments.** The principal departments are the Darbār or final office of reference, the Judicial, *Shikkdāri* or Revenue, Treasury and Accounts, Forest, Police and Jails, Public Works, Educational and Medical.
- Official Language.** The official languages of the State are Hindi and Urdu, accounts and all revenue records are kept in Hindi, while orders are issued in Urdu.
- Administrative divisions.** The State is divided into four *tahsils* with headquarters at Datū, Indargarh, Nadigaon and Seondha. Each *tahsil* is in charge of a *tahsildār*, who is the chief revenue officer and a magistrate. He is assisted by a *kānungs*, *sidihnaris* or accountant and clerks.
- Village Autonomy.** The *nambardār* is the principal village official. When there are several *nambardārs* in a village, one is always recognised as the head or *mukhia nambardār*. The *mukhia nambardār* is bound to assist the *paticārī* in collecting the revenue, and also settles all local disputes through the *panchāyat* of which he is the leading member. The *paticārī* is a State official who maintains the village records and accounts, and collects and forwards the revenue to the *tahsildār*. Other members of the village community are the *chaukīdār* or watchman, the *Balūhar* who acts as messenger, the *Nāi* or barber, *Chamūr* or leather worker, *Lohūr* or blacksmith, *Kumhār* or potter, etc. These men are all paid for their services either by grants of revenue-free land or a share of the village grain at each harvest or in some cases both.

#### Section II.—Law and Justice.

(TABLES XVI AND XVII.)

- Legislation and Codes.** There is no legislative officer. The *dīwan* in consultation with the Chief issues such local regulations as may from time to time appear necessary. In criminal cases the Indian Penal Code is followed generally, but in civil suits the old *panchāyat*

system is largely used, while the courts decide cases in accordance with local custom.

The lowest civil courts are those of the *tahsildārs* who are empowered to hear suits of which the subject matter does not exceed Rs. 100 in value, the *munsif* at Datiā hearing suits up to Rs. 5,000, and the *munsif* at Seondha up to Rs. 1,000. The *dūcān* hears cases beyond the powers of the Datiā and Seondha *munsifs* and all appeals. Final appeals are preferred to the Chief. The Seondha court deals with cases in that *tahsil* and in Nadigaon.

Civil.

The Datiā magistrate hears cases for the *thānas* of Unaō, Pādri, Ronija, Indargarh and Datiā town. He can award imprisonment up to 6 months and Rs. 50 in fines. The Seondha court hears cases for the Nadigaon, Tharait and Seondha *thānas*. Fines up to Rs. 25 can be levied, and 3 months' imprisonment awarded by this court. The magistrate at Baroni deals with cases for that *thāna*. Appeals lie to the *dūcān* and final appeals to the Chief. Heinous cases are tried by the *dūcān*, and the decision submitted to the Chief for confirmation.

Criminal.

The *shikkdār* is the chief revenue officer and deals with revenue cases, appeals from him lying to the Darbār.

Revenue court.

The Chief is High Court, all final appeals from the *dūcān* lying to him in both civil and criminal cases, while all sentences of death and transportation for life require his confirmation. No appeal lies from the decision of the Chief.

High Court,  
*Ijāz khās*.

The judicial establishment costs about 14,000 a year. Fees are charged in civil suits at the rate of 7½ per cent. on the value of the property, the realisations amounting to about Rs. 18,000.

Establish-  
ment, reve-  
nue and cost.

### Section III.—Finance.

#### (TABLES XVIII AND XIX.)

The State accounts are audited by the treasury official to whom the revenue collections are sent by the *tahsildārs*; the village accounts are made up by the *paticāris* and submitted to the *tahsil* office.

The total normal revenue of the State in 1902-03 was 5·5 lakhs, of which 4·8 lakhs or 8·6 per cent. are derived from land revenue. Opium, of which a small quantity is manufactured, pays a duty of Re. 1-2-0 per seer and together with other excisable articles brings in Rs. 21,500 a year. A yearly sum of Rs. 10,000 is received from the British Government in compensation for salt dues formerly levied. The principal heads of expenditure are 2·3 lakhs on general administration including Chief's establishment, Rs. 64,000 on the Public Works Department; a payment of Rs. 9,500 yearly is made to Sindhia for the Nadigaon *tahsil*. Assignments of land to *jāgīrdārs* for the

Sources of  
Revenue and  
Expenditure.

up-keep of feudal levies amount to about 4 lakhs, making the total gross income of the State 9·6 lakhs.

## Coinage.

Up to 1903 the local *Rājāshāhī* rupee of 9 māshas, 7 rattis, in weight coined at Datia was the chief currency, while the Orchhā rupee *Gajāshāhī*, *Bālāshāhī*, *Girālīor* issues and others also circulated. The conversion was effected at a premium of Rs. 6-1-0 per cent. on the *Bālāshāhī*, of 16 on the *Gajāshāhī* mainly current in *tahsīl*, the *Nānāshāhī* at 15, and the local

## Section IV.—Land Revenue.

(TABLE XX.)

## Collection.

In early days the *tahsīls* and villages were given out on farm to *ijāradārs*, practically no control being exercised by the Darbār, so long as the contract price was regularly paid on.

The cultivators are granted yearly leases or *pattas*, which fix the demand for that year. The amount is paid in by them to the *tahsīl* in two instalments, on *Ayhan* (November) Sudī 15th and *Chait* (March) Sudī 15th.

In *zamindāri* holdings the revenue till lately was often paid to the *zamindār* in kind, the share given to the cultivator being usually  $\frac{1}{3}$ . In these cases the value of the standing crop was appraised by eye, a system called *dharot*. This was always a private arrangement between the *zamindār* and the cultivator as the State does not receive revenue in kind.

Suspensions and remissions are freely given in bad years.

## Rates.

The rates for the principal classes of soil are for *manta* soil in Datia *tahsīl* Rs. 2-7-0 per *bigha*, in Indargarh and Nadigaon Rs. 2-8-0, and in Seondha Rs. 2-6-0; for *kāwar* in Indargarh Rs. 2-5-0, in Datia and Nadigaon Rs. 2-4-0, and in Seondha Rs. 2; for *parua* in Nadigaon and Seondha Re. 1-15-0, and elsewhere Re. 1-1-0.

## Tenures.

The land is divided broadly into *khālsā* and alienated. In the former two classes of tenure exist; *zamindāri* and *royatwāri*. In the first case, a *zamindār* is responsible for the revenue demand of part of a village, a whole village, or even two or more villages; in the second case, the cultivator deals directly with the *tahsildār*. The *jāgīrdārs* hold under different terms, but all pay a certain sum to the Darbār, and are expected to attend the Chief with their retainers if called on to do so.

## Section V.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

(TABLE XXI.)

Excise,  
Opium.

Very little poppy is cultivated, only about 100 acres being sown in Seondha *tahsīl*. The revenue derived amounts to about Rs. 200 a year.

Liquor is prepared from the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*) flowers. The contract for distillation is sold separately for each village and town in the State. The revenue from this source is about Rs. 6,400.

Liquor.

In lieu of the duty formerly levied on salt, the British Government makes a compensatory payment of Rs. 10,000 yearly. The production of local salt and saltpetre is limited by this agreement to double the amount placed after the name of each village in the schedules attached to the agreement of 1879; this amounts to about 18,000 maunds a year for salt, and 4,000 maunds for saltpetre.

Salt.

From the sale of stamps about Rs. 17,400 are realised yearly, of which Rs. 10,500 are derived from judicial stamps.

Stamps.

#### Section VI.—Public Works.

This department deals with the maintenance and repair of all roads and buildings and State irrigation works. The annual budget allotment is about Rs. 64,000.

#### Section VII.—Army.

##### (TABLE XXV.)

The State forces are composed of a regular and irregular force of 5,165 infantry and 925 cavalry exclusive of officers.

Forces.

This includes the *Rājkumār Rīsālu*, formed of the sons of local *sardārs* and *Thākurs*. These number 172 men. The regular infantry number 240. The guns in the State are 124, of which 48 are serviceable.

Two brass cannon, known as the *Lātbaksh* or Lord's (Viceroy's) gift, were presented to Mahārājā Pūrichhat by Lord Hastings in 1818.

The irregulars include the *hilaniyās* and *bārgirs*, who form the personal bodyguard of the Chief and are all hereditary servants; and the *khāsbardārs*, who act as palace guards.

Irregulars.

The army costs 5 lakhs, including in this sum land grants as well as cash payments. It may be mentioned that in early days the Datīā army contained a considerable body of *Gusāins*.

The descendants of this community are still living in Datīā where their leader or *mahant* resides. Anūpgīr Hīmmat Bahādur, the famous *Gusāin* leader of the early 19th century, and the partner of Ali Bahādur, was a member of this community. These *Gusāins* rose to considerable power in the 18th century, when Nāru Shankar presented the *mahant* Rājendra with a *jāgīr* worth Rs. 10,000 near Moth. Anūpgīr was Rājendra's *chela* or disciple. Anūpgīr Hīmmat Bahādur succeeded Rājendra. He entered Shuja-ud-daula's service and fought against the British at Baxār. Later on, he joined Sindhia, but left his service in 1800 to unite with Ali Bahādur of Bānda in

*Gusāins*.

the conquest of Bundelkhand. In 1803 he submitted and received a *jāqūr* worth Rs. 9·2 lakhs from the British Government. On his death in 1804, it was resumed, but pensions were given to members of his family. He used to command a force of over 20,000 men with 70 guns.

The *mahant* at Datiā is always installed personally by the Chief. At present no military duties are carried out by these people.

#### Section VIII.—Police and Jails.

(TABLES XXIV AND XXVI.)

**Police.**

The police number 261 constables of all grades, under 1 *mun-*  
*tazim*, 6 inspectors and 7 sub-inspectors. They are distributed through 9 *thānas*. These are situated in Datiā town and at Unaō, Pūdri, Ronija, Baroni, Indargarh, Seondha, Tharait and Nadigaon.

Villages are watched by *chaukidārs* who number 891. These men report cases to the nearest *thāna*.

**Jails.**

Two jails have been established, a central jail at Datiā and a district jail at Seondha. *Dariś* and carpets are made at Datiā; prisoners are also employed in gardens and on roads.

#### Section IX.—Education.

(TABLE XXIII.)

A High School was opened in Datiā town in 1862 which teaches up to the Entrance Standard of the Allahābād University. Primary schools are located at Indargarh, Unaō, Seondha and Nadigaon, in which Persian, Hindi, Urdu and Sanskrit are taught. The average attendance is 672 boys, and the cost about Rs. 3,000.

#### Section X.—Medical.

(TABLE XXVII.)

A hospital has been opened at Datiā in charge of a native doctor. Vaccination is becoming yearly more popular, 1,770 persons being protected in 1906-07.

## CHAPTER IV.

### ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS AND GAZETTEER.

(TABLES I, III, VIII, X, XIII, XVIII,  
XIX, XX, XXIII AND XXIX.)

Datiā Tahsīl with Baronī.—This *tahsīl* lies round the chief town. It has an area of about 555 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Indargarh *tahsīl*, on the east by the Jhānsi District, and on the south and west by Gwalior State.

No hills of any importance lie in this *tahsīl*, though the whole tract is traversed by low ridges of gneiss. It is watered by the Sind, Pahūj, Gora, Mahuar, Kesua, Tedhi, Gohāna and Gorī rivers. There are also several tanks of importance, the largest being those at Baronī and Agora. The history of the tract has been fully dealt with in the State account. In 1745 the Datiā Chief managed in a fight which occurred not far from the walls of the town to repulse Pilājī Gaikwār, whose nephew was killed while he himself was wounded. A local saying runs that

*Datiā ki dāng men khair babūr,  
Pilājī dhundai bhatīje ka mūnd.*

*The jungles of Datiā are full of khair and babūl ;  
Here Pilājī sought for his nephew's head in vain.*

The population, in 1901, was 99,326 persons; males 51,351, females 47,975, of whom Hindus formed 95 per cent.

The *tahsīl* contains 251 villages of which 16 are included in the Baronī *jāgīr*.

The prevailing soils are *mār* and *kāwar*. Of the total area 150,900 acres are cultivated, of which 4,800 acres are irrigated, 47,600 acres are culturable but uncultivated, and 97,700 are jungle.

The chief crops are wheat covering 51,800 acres, *jowār* and *mūng* 33,600, gram, *masūr* and linseed 30,200, *tillī* or *tilī*, *urad* and cotton 27,800, rice 2,000, *kodon*, *sāmān* and *kurathī* 500, *bājra* 400 acres and sugarcane 100.

The double-cropped area is 1,500 acres.

The main sources of irrigation are wells, of which there are 1,971 of all classes in the *tahsīl*. Water is usually lifted by means of the Persian wheel ; barley and *pissi* wheat are watered as well as sugarcane and garden crops. Of the jungle, one-fourth is open and the rest reserved ; the trees are not of great value.

Salt is made at 53 places and saltpetre at 9.

Fairs are held at Baroni on *Asādh Sudī* 15th, at Unaon on *Chait Badī* 5th, at Rarua on *Phāgun Badī* 14th, and periodically, but on no fixed date at Sonāgir. Those at Unaon and Sonāgir are religious fairs of the Hindus and Jains, respectively, and are attended by large numbers.

The *tahsil* is traversed by the Midland Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, with stations at Datia and Sonāgir. The metalled roads from Jhansi and Gwalior also run through it.

An Imperial post office combined with telegraph is located at Datia with a branch office at Sonāgir; and State offices at Ronija, Samai and Unaon. The *tahsil* is administered by a *tahsil-dār* who resides at Datia. He is the chief revenue officer, and a magistrate and civil judge; a magistrate at Baroni assists in criminal work. The total revenue of the *tahsil* is Rs. 540,400, of which excise brings in Rs. 2,700, there being 51 shops for the sale of country liquor.

**Indargarh Tahsil.**—This *tahsil* lies to the north of the chief town having an area of about 99 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Gwalior and the Seondha *tahsil*, and on the remaining sides by Gwalior.

There are no hills in this *tahsil*, while the only rivers are the Sind and a small tributary.

Indargarh whence this place takes its name was originally known as Dardguon. In 1758 Rājā Indrajit seized the district from the Jāts, and built the fort which he called after his own name. When the *Chaurāsi-ilāka* was granted to Rājā Pārichhat it was incorporated in the Indargarh *tahsil*. It appears in Mughal days to have been known as the Uchhād district, from the village of Uchhād then the headquarters.<sup>1</sup>

Population was, in 1901, 19,261 persons; males 10,107, females 9,154, of whom Hindus formed 96 per cent.

The *tahsil* contains 58 inhabited villages.

The prevailing classes of soil are *mūr*, *khero* and *kāwar*. Of the total area 46,800 acres are under cultivation, 1,300 being irrigated, and 200 double-cropped. Of the crops *jowār* and *mūng* occupy 13,900 acres, wheat 14,300, gram and *alsi* or *arsī* 10,900, *tilī* and *urad* with cotton 8,300, *sāmān*, *phikār*, *kurathi*, etc., 200, *bājra* 100, sugarcane 49.

The chief sources of irrigation are wells, of which there are 472; *pissi*, sugarcane and vegetables are watered. Some jungle is situated along the Sind, of which about one-fourth is reserved. No valuable trees grow in it. Salt is manufactured at 5, and saltpetre at 20 villages. Three fairs are held at Indargarh, Uchhād and Khadava. No railway or metalled roads traverse the *tahsil*, goods being carried by country tracts to Sonāgir station in the Datia *tahsil*.

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps Buchhadeh *mahal* of Irich *sarkār* given in the *Tin-i-Akkari*.

A State branch post office is located at Indargarh.

The *tahsildār* in charge resides at Indargarh; he is the chief revenue official.

The revenue of the *tahsīl* amounts to Rs. 1,03,600; excise realises only Rs. 112 per annum from 13 liquor shops.

**Nadigaon Tahsīl.**—An isolated *tahsīl* lying between  $26^{\circ} 4'$  and  $26^{\circ} 8'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 1'$  and  $79^{\circ} 7'$  E., in the north of the State, with an area of 52 square miles. It is bounded on the north-east and south by the Jālaun District, and on the west by Gwalior.

No hills are met with in this *tahsīl*. The Pahūj, Miraja, Karsad, Bilāri and Luhand are the important streams. Nadigaon or "the village on the river" is traditionally supposed to be of great age. Another popular name is Pandor, said to be a contraction of Pāndava-karār. This spot was the scene, according to local tradition, of the story given in the Mahābhārata in which Rājā Duryodhana tried to destroy the Pāndava brothers by entrapping them in the *Lākshāgriha*, i. or house of lac, which was to be set on fire as soon as they were inside. In remembrance of this event a religious fair is held at a spot on the river bank on the Bhīmsenī Ekādashī or Jeth Sudī 11th.

Population was (1901) 13,830 persons; males 7,258, females 6,572, of whom 97 per cent. were Hindus. The *tahsīl* contains 72 villages, of which, however, 22 are at present deserted. The prevailing soil is *parua*. The total cultivated area is 20,400 acres, of which 100 are irrigated; the uncultivated but culturable area amounts to 600, and forest and waste land to 12,000.

Of the crops, linseed and gram cover 6,700 acres, *jowār* and *mūng* 2,900, wheat 7,900, *bājra* 1,900, *tillī*, *urad* and cotton 12,600, and *sāmān* and *phikār* 100; no poppy or sugarcane is sown. The double-cropped area is 100. Irrigation is effected from wells mainly, of which there are 99. The Betwā Canal passes through the *tahsīl*, but no use is made of its water.

A religious fair is held at Nadigaon on Kārtik Sudī 2nd called the Guraiya Devī mela, and another at Lohai village on Chait Sudī 8th.

No railway or metalled road crosses the *tahsīl*, goods being carried by country track to the stations of Ait and Kūnch on the Jhānsi-Cawnpore Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

A *tahsildār* is in charge who resides at Nadigaon. The revenue of the *tahsīl* is Rs. 65,900, of which Rs. 330 are derived from the liquor shop at Nadigaon.

This *tahsīl* was seized by the Marāthās in the 18th century and the Datiā Darbār pay 15,000 *Nānāshāhī* rupees (about

1. Lahār in Gwalior is said to take its name from the same story, being contraction of *Lākshāgriha*.

Rs. 9,500) a year to Sindhia through the British Government on account of this *tahsil*.

**Seondha Tahsil.**—This *tahsil* lies to the north-east of Datiā between  $25^{\circ} 55'$  and  $26^{\circ} 18'$  N., and  $78^{\circ} 38'$  and  $78^{\circ} 53'$  E., having an area of 205 square miles. It is isolated from the rest of the State by intervening portions of the states of Gwalior and Indore, the former bounding it on the north-east and west, while the isolated *pargana* of Alampur in Indore lies on the south.

A low range of sandstone hills covered with jungle lies to the west of the headquarter town. The rivers in the *tahsil* are the Sind, which flows past Seondha, and the Borwāho.

Seondha takes its name, it is said, from its position on the bank of the Sind; it is also known locally as Prithvinagar from its founder. It was in Mughal days included in the Akbarābād (Agra) *sūbah*. The Seondha fort is called Kanhargarh.

Population, in 1901, was 41,342 persons; males 21,634, females 19,708, of whom 95 per cent. were Hindus. The *tahsil* contains 136 villages, of which 16 are at present deserted.

The prevailing soil is *parua*. The total cultivated area is 69,800 acres, of which 700 are irrigated; 8,200 are culturable but not under cultivation, and 53,400 are forest.

Of crops, gram and linseed occupy 26,500 acres, *jorūr* and *māng* 15,100, wheat 8,100, *tilli*, cotton and *urad* 3,700, *bājra*, *phikār* and *kurathi*, etc., 7,500, rice 300, poppy 100, betel 2. The double-cropped area amounts to 700 acres.

The main sources of irrigation are wells, of which there are 693 of all classes.

The jungle on the Seondha hills is the best in the State. No railway or metalled road traverses the *tahsil*, goods being carried to Datiā station, 18 miles distant by country tracks.

An Imperial post office has been located here and a State sub-post office at the headquarters, with a branch office at Tharait.

The *tahsildār* in charge is the chief revenue officer. A superior court of jurisdiction is situated here, dealing with cases which are beyond the powers of the *tahsildār*.

The revenue of the *tahsil* amounts to Rs. 2,36,100 of which Rs. 720 derived from 18 liquor shops, 1 at headquarters and 17 in the villages.

#### GAZETTEER.

**Baroni, tahsil Datiā:**—An important village situated in  $25^{\circ} 41'$  N., and  $78^{\circ} 24'$  E., about 4 miles north-east of Datiā town. It is the residence of the Baroni Thākurs, who are the nearest kinsmen of the Datiā family. These Thākurs are descended from Chhatarsāl, a son of Mahārājā Subbiakaran. Population 1901, 3,414 persons; males 1,787, females 1,627; occupied houses 691.

**Datiā Town, tāhsīl Datiā** :—The chief town of the State is situated 980 feet above sea-level in latitude  $25^{\circ} 41'$  north, and longitude  $78^{\circ} 30'$  east. It stands on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway 718 miles from Bombay, and also on the Jhānsi-Gwalior high road, 16 miles from the former place.

Datiā is popularly supposed to take its name from that of Danta Vakra, the Dānava king of Karusha, who opposed and was killed by Krishna, the place being called *Danta-nagara*. It was then only a small village situated in the *kasba* of Shāhjahānpura (now Bauhara village) in the Bhānder *mahal* of the Irich *sarkār* of Agra *sūbah*. Under Bīr Singh Dev of Orchhā it became a place of importance, while the present town known locally as Dalipnagar was founded by Dalpat Rao and called after his *rāshi* name. The town wall was erected in Rājā Parichhat's day. It is pierced by four gates, the northern or Richhāra *darwāza*, north-eastern or Bhānderi, the eastern or Jhānsi, and the western or Chunganj *darwāza*, also called the Lashkar *darwāza*.

The town is, as usual, divided into wards called after the class of the community which inhabits each.

The only buildings of importance are the palaces of Bir Singh Dev and Subbakaran, and several cenotaphs of members of the ruling family.

On one of the low hills over which the town is built, stands the magnificent palace of Bir Singh Dev, the massive pile towering above the town at its feet. This palace is one of the finest examples of domestic architecture in India. It is built in the form of a square, the monotony being relieved by four octagonal towers, one at each corner, and string courses of stone lattice work defining the five stories. The summit is ornamented by numerous graceful *chhattris* crowned with ribbed domes, while many of the ceilings in its chambers are finely carved. The southern facade looks over a large lake of which the waters are held up by stone retaining walls. The palace of Subbakaran which lies to the west is a handsome structure, but cannot be compared with the older building.

Many substantial houses belonging to State *sardārs* stand in the town ; they are built of local stone.

In December 1835 Colonel Sleeman visited the old palace and inquired why it was not used, the Mahārājā's servants replied, "No prince in these degenerate days could muster a family and court worthy of such a palace, the family and court of the largest of them would, within the walls of such a building, feel as if they were in a desert. Such palaces were made for princes of the older times, who were quite different beings from those of the present day." The noble palaces and temples which you see around

you, Sir, mouldering in ruins, were built by princes who had beaten emperors in battle, and whose spirits still hover over and protect the place. Several times under the late disorders, which preceded your paramount rule in Hindustan, when hostile forces assembled around us, and threatened our capital with destruction, lights and elephants innumerable were seen from the tops of those battlements, passing and re-passing under the walls, ready to defend them had the enemy attempted an assault, and everybody knew that they were the spirits of men like Bir Singh Dev and Hardaul Lala that had come to our aid and we never lost confidence.”<sup>1</sup>

Population was 1881, 28,346; 1891, 27,566; 1901, 24,071 persons; males 12,283, females 11,788. This shows a decrease of 12 per cent. since 1891. Classified by religions Hindus number 19,901 or 83 per cent., Musalmāns 4,166 or 17 per cent.

The arts and manufactures and conditions of trade have been already dealt with in the body of the account. An Imperial post and telegraph office and State post office are situated in the town, also a guest-house, a dāk bungalow, a hospital, a jail, a school, a *sadārārī* or institution for the distribution of public charity and several *sarāis*.

A Municipal Committee deals with sanitation, lighting, etc., in the town. A police force of 261 men keep watch and ward being distributed through 8 outposts.

**Indargarh, tahsil Indargarh** :—Headquarters of the *tahsil* situated in 25° 55' N., and 78° 36' E., about 14 miles from Datia town. It is said to have been known originally as Dardgaon. It lies 16 miles north of Datia town.

Population (1901) was 1,819 persons; males 997, females 822, of whom 1,560 or 85 per cent. been Hindus.

The importance of Indargarh only dates from its occupation by Indrajit in 1758.

**Nadigaon, tahsil Nadigaon** :—Headquarters of the *tahsil* of the same name situated in 26° 7' N., and 79° 4' E., 40 miles north of Datia and 10 miles by country track from Kunch station on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

The early name of this place was Pänder, by which it was known in Mughal days when it was the headquarters of a *mahal* in the *sarkār* of Irich in the *sūbah* of Agra.

The place has declined of late years owing to its isolation from roads and railways, and an industry in the manufacture of *razais*, which formerly flourished here, has died out.

Population was 1881, 5,475; 1891, 5,078; 1901, 4,443 persons; males 2,255, females 2,188, living in 829 houses. Hindus numbered 4,163 or 96 per cent., and Musalmāns 280. Besides

---

<sup>1.</sup> Sleeman's *Rambles and Recollections*, I, 281, 288.

the *tahsīl* and *nāzīm*'s offices, a fort, a school, an Imperial and a State post office and *thāna* are situated in the town. A police force of 41 men keeps watch and ward.

**Seondha, tahsīl Seondha** :—Headquarters of the *tahsīl* lying on the banks of the Sind river whence it takes its name, in latitude  $26^{\circ} 9'$  north and longitude  $78^{\circ} 49'$  east. It is 22 miles by unmetalled track from Kūnch station. Seondha is certainly an old town as the remains of the earlier settlement can be traced close to the present town. It has been suggested as the Sarua fort taken by Mahmūd of Ghazni in 1018 when in pursuit of Chand Rai.<sup>1</sup>

In 1801 the fight described in the historical portion took place beneath its walls.

Population was (1881) 7,988; (1891) 6,409; (1901) 5,542; males 2,767, females 2,775; living in 1,160 houses. The population numbered 4,926 or 88 per cent. Hindus, 13 Jains and 603 or 11 per cent. Musalmāns.

A *tahsīldār* and *nāzīm* are stationed here, and a school, Imperial and State post offices and a police station are located in the town, as well as the district offices.

**Sonāgir, tahsīl Datīā** :—Five miles from the town of Datīā at latitude  $25^{\circ} 43'$  N., and longitude  $78^{\circ} 30'$  E., lies the sacred Jain hill of Sonāgir, "The hill of rest." It consists of a small ridge of gneiss on the summit and slopes of which over a hundred Jain temples have been erected.

Seen from a distance the hill presents a picturesque appearance, with its numerous shrines perched amid great crags of granitic rock, but closer examination leads to disillusion. The structures are all of the degraded modern type, none, as they stand, dating back to later than the end of the 17th century. They are all built of brick with inelegant stuccoed white rectangular bodies, bulbous ribbed Muhammadan domes, and pine-cone spires, the doors and windows ornamented with the foliated Muhammadan arch and curved Bengali eave and roof. They lack entirely the purity and homogeneity of older temples and are disappointing. A fair is held here in *Phāgun* (February-March) when Jains from all parts of India come on pilgrimage.

**Unao or Baramjū, tahsīl Datīā** :—A village situated in  $25^{\circ} 35'$  N., and  $78^{\circ} 38'$  E., on the Pahūj about 10 miles from Datīā and 6 from Jhānsi. It is well-known for its temple to the Sun as Brāhmaṇya Dev (*Baramjū*) to which people from surrounding country flock to the number of 20 to 25 thousand on certain festivals. Population (1901) 2,276 persons; males 1,179, females 1,097; occupied houses 372.

1. E. M. H., II, 459.

The temple faces due east and stands some fifteen paces from the river Pahūj which flows before it. Inside the temple is a piece of stone representing the sun. It is of circular form, about six inches in diameter. On the edge are engraved twenty-one triangles representing twenty-one phases of the sun. The stone stands on a brick platform covered with brass plates. There is a protective brass cover or *gilhās* which is ordinarily kept in a separate room, but which when large crowds of people come to visit the temple is used to cover over and protect the stone.

Sunday is the special day on which it is worshipped, and Māgh the particular month. Fairs are held on the *Basant Panchamī* (*Māgh Sudī* 5th) and *Rang Panchamī* (*Chait Badi* 5th) when it is visited by immense crowds.

The worshipper first washes in the Pahūj and then, taking a *lota* of the river water, sweets, flowers, money, etc., as offerings, comes, still in his wet *dhotī*, to the temple and offers them. Rich people besides this feed Brāhmans, and offer a crest (*kalasa*) made of brass or gold. A winnowing basket or *chhāj* is offered by people who are suffering from the skin disease called *Chhājan*. The blind, childless and lepers especially resort here for relief. The belief in the power to cure skin diseases, possessed by the deity of this temple, is especially strong.

The priests are Jajhotia Brāhmans who came originally from the village of Kachera near Jhānsi.

The tale regarding this temple runs thus :—

There was formerly in Baraujū a Kāchhi who was very rich and owned an immense number of cattle. These cattle used to graze near the river. Once, at a certain spot on the banks, it was found that the cows gave milk without being milked. The Kāchhi on hearing this went to the spot and prayed that if it was the resting place of any deity that deity should manifest himself. The god appeared and he was told that he must search for an image. This he did, found the image (that now in the temple), and set it up.

A Jajhotia Brāhman came to officiate as priest, later on calling in his brothers. Some dissensions, however, arose between them regarding the duties and a Kāchhi was hired to do the menial work of sweeping out the shrine. The result has been that all offerings are now divided into ten portions, seven going to the Brāhmans, as there were originally seven brothers, and one to the family of the Kāchhi, while two are kept for the expenses of the temple. The present temple was erected by the late Mahārājā.

In Samvat 1901 (A. D. 1844) the temple was enlarged by Māma Sāhib Jādhav, then Sindhia's minister of the State.

TREATY concluded between RAO RAJAH PAREECHUT  
 of DUTTEEAH and CAPTAIN BAILLIE, Political  
 Agent of HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL LAKE,  
 Commander-in-Chief, etc., etc., etc., at  
 KOONJUN GHAT, the 15th day  
 of March 1804.

Whereas a firm Treaty of alliance and friendship subsists between the British Government and His Highness the Peishwa, and by a mutual agreement between these two powers, a portion of the province of Bundelcund has been ceded in perpetual sovereignty to the Hon'ble Company : and Whereas shortly after the arrival of the British army in Bundelcund Rao Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor, the ruler of Dutteeah, repaired to the British Standard, and was admitted among the number of the dependents of the British Government: Therefore, and with a view to the greater security and confidence of Rao Rajah Pareechut Bahadur, a Treaty, comprising the following Articles, is now concluded between the British Government and the said Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor.

#### ARTICLE 1.

Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor having professed his obedience and attachment to the British Government, and to that of His Highness the Peishwa, hereby engages to consider the friends of both Governments as his friends, and their enemies as his enemies: that is to say, he promises not to molest any Chief or State who shall be obedient to the British Government and to His Highness the Peishwa, and considering all such as may be rebellious or disaffected to those governments as his own enemies, he engages to give no protection in his country to such persons or their families, to hold no intercourse or correspondence of any nature with them, and to use every means in his power to seize and deliver them over to the Government against which they may offend.

#### ARTICLE 2.

If at any time a dispute arise between Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor, and any neighbouring State or Chieftain professing obedience to the British Government, the Rajah engages to communicate the grounds of such dispute to the British Government, that they may have an opportunity of investigating the matter in dispute, and of adjusting it to the mutual satisfaction of the parties, or of punishing the party who shall be refractory.

#### ARTICLE 3.

The ilaka of Bhandere and certain other mehals having been lately ceded by the British Government to the Rana of Gohud, the Rajah engages to abstain from all manner of interference

with the said ilaka and mehals ; and the Rajah further engages to live on terms of amity and friendship with all the neighbouring Chiefs who have professed their obedience and attachment to the British Government, and to avoid entering into quarrels with any of those Chiefs.

#### ARTICLE 4.

Whenever a detachment of British forces shall be employed in punishing the disaffected in the countries contiguous to the possessions of Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor, the Rajah engages to join the British forces with his army, and to assist in the accomplishment of their views, and if at any time a detachment of the British force shall march into the Rajah's territory for the purpose of quelling disturbances there, the whole expenses of such detachment shall be defrayed by the Rajah ; on the other hand, if the assistance of the Rajah's troops be at any time demanded for the purpose of quelling disturbances in the British territory, the expense of such troops shall be borne by the British Government.

#### ARTICLE 5.

Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor is in reality the commander of his own troops, but it is hereby agreed that on every occasion when they may be acting with the British forces, the general command of the whole shall be vested in the Commanding Officer of the British troops ; and in the event of peace being concluded due attention shall be paid to the interests of the Rajah.

#### ARTICLE 6.

The Rajah engages never to entertain in his service any British subject, or European of any nation or description whatever, without the consent of the British Government.

#### ARTICLE 7.

The ancestors of Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor having uniformly been treated with respect and distinction by the powers of Hindoostan and by His Highness the Peishwa, and having uniformly enjoyed the undisturbed possession of the territory now in the Rajah's occupation, the Rajah shall in like manner experience every degree of consideration and favour under the British Government, so long as he shall continue faithful and attached to its interests.

#### ARTICLE 8.

The territory which from ancient times has descended to Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor by inheritance is hereby confirmed

to the Rajah, and to his heirs and successors, and they shall never be molested in the enjoyment of the said territory by the British Government, nor by any of their allies.

#### ARTICLE 9.

If Rajah Ambajee Inglia at any time molest the possessions of the Rajah, the British Government shall interfere to prevent him.

#### ARTICLE 10.

Accusations of disaffection if adduced by any person against the Rajah, shall not be attended to by the British Government, unless the truth of them be proved. This Agreement, containing ten Articles, signed and sealed by Captain John Baillie and Rao Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor on the 15th of the month of March, corresponding with the 2nd of the month of Zelhij 1218 Hijeree, and the 4th Jeit Soodee 1861 Sumbat, at Koonjun Ghat, is delivered to Rao Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor, and another of the same date, tenor and contents signed and sealed by the parties on the same day, is delivered to Captain John Baillie. Whenever the ratification of this Agreement under the seal and signature of His Excellency General Lake, or of His Excellency the Most Noble the Marquis Wellesley, Governor-General, shall be delivered to Rajah Pareechut Bahadoor, the Rajah engages to return this Agreement.

---





SAMTHAR STATE.



## ARMS OF THE SAMTHAR STATE.



**Arms:**—Murrey seme of wheat ears or; on a bend argent three pheons gules. **Crest:**—A stag's head erased proper. **Supporters:**—Black buck.

**Motto:**—*Dridh charan bhūvaran.* “The firm foot acquires territory.”

**Note.**—The colour is that used by the Bundelās and given to this State from its connection with them. The spear heads allude to the soldierly qualities of the rulers, the wheat to the land round the fort of Samthar.

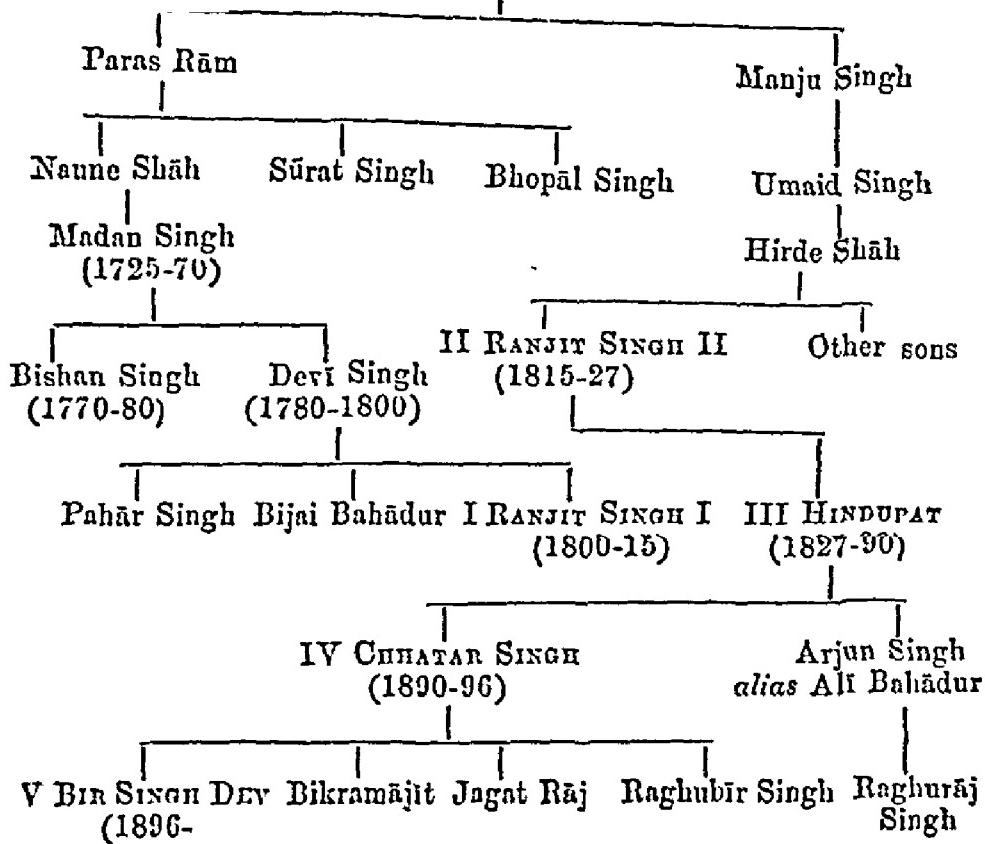
---



# GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE SAMTHAR FAMILY.

Chandrabhān Bar-Gūjar.

Daya Rām





# CHAPTER I.

## DESCRIPTIVE.

### Section I.—Physical Aspects.

The Samthar State is one of the three treaty States of the Bundelkhand Political Charge in the Central India Agency, lying between latitude  $25^{\circ} 38'$  and  $26^{\circ} 2'$  N., and longitude  $78^{\circ} 48'$  and  $79^{\circ} 11'$  E. Situation.

The State which has an area of about 178 square miles is bounded on the north and east by the Jalaun District of the United Provinces, on the south by the Jhansi District of the United Provinces, and on the west by the Gwalior State and the Jhansi District. Area and Boundaries.

Two origins are given for the name; one from *samthal* or the flat country, referring to the level alluvial plain which forms the State, the other from Shamshergarb, a name still occasionally applied to the chief town. Origin of name.

The State lies entirely in the alluvial plain which conceals the northern end of the great tract of Bundelkhand gneiss. NATURAL DIVISIONS AND SCENERY.

A flat plain singularly devoid of interesting features, its scenery has nothing striking about it. HILLS.

As a natural result there are no hills of any size. The only eminence of note being the Seora pahar, which is locally important as the site of the temple of Kapila Nath, where a religious fair is held yearly on the second day of the dark half of the month *Chaitra* (March). The water of a spring at this spot is supposed when sprinkled on crops attacked by blight (*gerua*) to cause their recovery. .

The only rivers of importance are the Betwa and the Pahuj. The Betwa flows through State territory for ten miles and the Pahuj for eight. They are of no value for irrigation but afford a considerable area of fertile *kachhar* land in their beds, where crops and vegetables are grown. Unlike most Bundelkhand States, Samthar possesses no tanks. RIVERS.

Geologically the State presents little that is interesting, as the Bundelkhand gneiss which constitutes the principal rock in the neighbourhood is almost wholly concealed by Gangetic alluvium. GEOLOGY.<sup>1</sup>

The vegetation in waste land is composed of the classes characteristic of Central India species of *Zizyphus*, *Grewia*, BOTANY.<sup>2</sup>

1. By Mr. E. Vredenburg, *Geological Survey of India*.

2. By Lieut.-Colonel D. Prain, I. M. S., *Botanical Survey of India*.

*Phyllanthus*, *Casuarina*, *Carissa* and *Woodfordia* being prominent among the shrubs; among the leading trees are *Bombaria malabaricum*, *Sterculia urens*, *Butea frondosa* and *Bauhinia variegata*. The herbaceous vegetation includes many *Leguminosae* and *Gramineae*; other families fairly represented are *Convolvulaceae*, *Compositae*, *Boraginaceae*, *Malvaceae*. Near villages occur mangoes, tamarinds, mahuā and palms.

**FAUNA.**

Animals are not common, there being no good forest or jungle to afford them cover and leopards are only seen occasionally, but small game is fairly plentiful.

**Climate  
(Table I).**

The State shares in the general conditions of Bundelkhand, experiencing greater extremes of heat and cold than the States in the high level tract of the Malwā plateau.

**Rainfall  
(Table II).**

The average rainfall is 28 inches : a maximum of 42 having experienced in 1898 and a minimum of 22 in 1903.

**Section II.— History.****(Genealogical Tree.)**

Early  
1700-1800.  
See Append-  
ix A.

The ruling family of Samthar are of the Bar-Gūjar caste. The State only came into existence as an independent chiefship one generation before the establishment of British supremacy.

An attempt has been made by bards to date the independence of this State from early days, but investigation at once discloses that the claim has no foundations whatever. Until the time of Rājā Ranjit Singh I, they were only big zamindārs and jāgīr-holders, nominally at least subordinate to the Datiā Chief.

They trace descent from Chandrabhān Bar-Gūjar who finally settled down as a zamindār in the districts north of Kūnch and Bhānder. He gradually increased his possessions and became a landholder of importance, and a local magnate.

On Chandrabhān's death his son, Daya Rām, inherited the estates, which passed to his son, Paras Rām. Paras Rām added considerably to his possessions. Old Orchhā records shew that Paras Rām lived at Parsonda ( $26^{\circ} 1' N.$ , and  $78^{\circ} 52' E.$ ) village in Seondha tahsil of Datiā. He left three sons, Naune Shāh, Sūrat Singh and Bhopāl Singh. Naune Shāh succeeded and may be considered as laying the foundations of future independence. On the death of Rājā Rām Chandra of Datiā in 1736 disputes arose as to the succession, and Indrajit, the great-grandson of the late chief, appealed to Mahārājā Udot Singh of Orchhā. The Mahārājā supported his appeal and deputed a force under Naune Shāh Gūjar, Lāla Raghuwansī Kūyastha, and others to reinstate him. They advanced on Datiā and drove out the usurper, Raghunāth Singh. Those who had rendered such good

service were then rewarded and Naunc Shāh received five villages in *jāgūr* and the title of Rājdhar. The grant of the title was commemorated by naming a bazar in Datiā town, the *Rājdhar-ka-bazar*, a name by which it is still known.<sup>1</sup> Naunc Shāh's son Madan Singh (1725-70) rose to a position of importance and obtained the governorship of Samthar fort. He left two sons who shared the property. Bishan Singh the elder and his brother, Devī Singh, were instrumental in driving out Bahādurjū, son and successor of Prithī Singh, *jāgūrdār* of Seondha, who had attempted to throw off the suzerainty of Datiā.<sup>2</sup> Bishan Singh died childless and Devī Singh (1780-1800) inherited the estate. Devī Singh stood in high favour with the Datiā Chief, who conferred on him five villages as a reward, including that of Samthar.<sup>3</sup> The position of the family was considerably improved at this time and the weakening of the Datiā power caused by Marāthā invasion practically left the Samthar *Rais* to their own devices and paved the way to complete independence. Devī Singh left three sons, Pahār Singh, Bijai Bahādur, and Ranjit Singh. The first two died early and Ranjit Singh came into possession.

Ranjit Singh, who saw that the power of the State was certain to succumb to the Marāthās although he had already lost some territory in contests with them, finally made terms and received the formal title of Rājā from the Peshwā, and the Samthar State entered upon a separate existence independent of the Datiā Darbār. He died without an heir.

An attempt was made by his widow to instal her brother-in-law but Ranjit Singh, the eldest son of Hirde Shāh, a son of Umaid Singh, the grandson of Daya Rām, was chosen by the *sardārs* and placed on the *gaddi*. On the establishment of the British supremacy Ranjit Singh requested to be taken under the protection of the British Government, and a treaty was signed with him in 1817, confirming him in the possession of the territory he then held.<sup>4</sup>

Ranjit Singh died in 1827 and was followed by his son, Hindūpat. In 1858 he became of unsound mind and was deprived of his powers, the administration being entrusted to his Rānī. In 1862 Chhatar Singh, Hindūpat's son, asserted his claim to rule which was admitted by the British Government. The *tahsīl* of Amargarh was then assigned for the maintenance of the ex-chief, his Rānī and an illegitimate son, Arjun Singh alias Alt Bahādur. In 1880 the Rānī died but the arrangement

Ranjit  
Singh I  
(1800-15).

Ranjit  
Singh II  
(1815-27).

Hindūpat  
(1827-90).

1. Not given in State account, but is recorded in old Orchhā papers.

2. In old records of Orchhā.

3. The Samthar Darbār asserts its independence *ab initio* denying this grant. All facts, however, are in favour of this account.

4. Appendix B.

continued till 1883 when owing to the mismanagement of Arjun Singh the *tahsil* was resumed, the detached village of Sāmī being assigned as a residence, a cash allowance being added. Hindūpat died in 1890 and Government, in consideration of the length of time that Chhatar Singh had actually been ruler, decided that no formal recognition of his position was necessary.

Chhatar Singh (1890-96).

Chhatar Singh was an able and energetic administrator, and effected many reforms in the various departments of the State. A *sānād* of adoption had been granted in 1862; in 1879 a salt convention was made by which the British Government undertook to pay Rs. 1,450 yearly in lieu of dues formerly levied on salt; in 1882 land was ceded for the Kathaund and Hamīrpur Canals and in 1884 for the Midland Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. In 1870 he attended the *darbār* held at Agra during the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, in 1875 that held by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (now His Majesty King Edward VII), and in 1877 the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, where he received the personal title of Mūhārājā and was presented with a medal and banner. He died in 1896 leaving four sons, Bir Singh Dev, Bikramājīt, Jagat Rāj and Raghubir Singh.

Bir Singh Dev (1896-)

The present Chief succeeded on his father's death. In 1903 he attended the Delhi *darbār* and in 1905 was presented to Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales at Indore. Ali Bahādur or Arjun Singh still resides at Sāmī village. The Chief received the personal title of Mūhārājā in 1898 and first class *Kaisar-i-hind* medal in 1907.

Title.

The Samthar Chief ordinarily bears the titles of His Highness and Rājā, and enjoys a salute of eleven guns.

### Section III.—Population.

(TABLES III AND IV.)

Enumeration, Variation and Density.

Three enumerations of the State have taken place, giving in 1881, 38,633; 1891, 40,541; and 1901, 33,472. A decrease of 21 per cent. thus took place in the last decade. The density is 181 persons to the square mile.

Towns and Villages.

Of 91 towns and villages, 79 have a population of under 500; 5 of between 500 and 1,000; 6 of between 1,000 and 2,000; and one, the chief town, of over 5,000.

Sex.

Arranged according to sex, there were 17,530 males, and 15,92 females or 99 females to 100 males.

Religions.

The different religions shewed Hindus 31,211, or 93 per cent., Jains 32, Musalmāns 2,229 or 7 per cent.

Language and Literacy.

The prevailing forms of speech are Bundolkhandī, and Hindī; while of the total population 2·9 per cent. are literate.

The chief castes are Chamārs who form 13 per cent., Brāhmans 11 per cent., Lodhis 9 per cent., Kāchhis, Gūjars 7 per cent. each, and Gadariās 5 per cent. Castes.

Of the total population, 10,965 or 33 per cent. follow agricultural and pastoral occupations, and 17 per cent. general labour, and 14 per cent. State service. Occupations.

## CHAPTER II.

### ECONOMIC.

(TABLES VII TO XV, XXIX AND XXX.)

#### Section I.—Agriculture.

##### General.

The conformation of the land is the same throughout this small State, the alluvial coating which covers the gneiss being, moreover, of similar fertility everywhere. All cultivation depends on the rainfall as the area which can be artificially irrigated is insignificant.

##### Soils.

Five main classes of soil are recognised ; *mār*, a black coloured loamy soil which is considered the best for wheat and which requires but little irrigation ; *kābar*, a brown soil, hard, and mixed with a certain proportion of stones in which, for the production of first class crops, irrigation is required ; *parua*, a yellow soil which is the prevailing earth on this alluvial tract, and is of moderate fertility ; and *rānkar*, a stony soil of poor quality, only producing *tillī*, *kodon*, *kukī*, etc., and it is not often cultivated.

##### Seasons.

Two seasons are recognised ; the *kharif* or autumn season in which *jowār*, *bājra*, *kodon*, etc., are grown, and the *rabi* or spring season for wheat and gram.

##### Cultivation.

The normal area cultivated is about 55,000 acres or 48 per cent. of the total area. The statistics shew no variations.

##### Agricultural practice.

Operations for sowing are commenced on the *Akkhātī* in the month of *Chait*, the ground being cleared of weeds and ploughed. Sowing then takes place as soon as the soil has been sufficiently moistened by the rain. Large seeds are sown through a tube or drill, and small seeds broadcast.

##### Double-cropping.

Irrigated land is usually all double cropped, an autumn crop being followed by a spring crop or some vegetable. Mixed sowings are common, *jowār* being sown with *wād*, *mūng* or *tillī* at the *kharif* and wheat and gram with *arsī*, or *sarson* at the *rabi*.

##### Rotation.

Rotation though understood is not very regularly practised, though the same field is occasionally sown alternately with an autumn and spring crop.

##### Manure.

Manuring is only spread on fields near villages and with vegetables and other special crops. Village sweepings and cow dung are mainly used.



Rs. 20, for sheep and goats Re. 1 to Rs. 2 and for buffaloes Rs. 15 to Rs. 50.

Pasture grounds. Ample pasture land exists in all parts of the State on which the people graze their cattle. In summer when there is no grass, the cultivators feed their cattle on the *jowār* stems (*karbi*) or *bhūsa* (chaff).

No difficulties are experienced in an ordinary year in feeding cattle. In a famine year they are fed on the *karbi* and *bhūsa* which the cultivators collected in the previous years.

Diseases. The following are the cattle diseases most commonly met with and their remedies :—*Bhadaiyān Rog* :—The quarters and hind legs become swollen and then the neck. The animal breathes with difficulty and will not eat. To cure it the ears are split with a knife and powdered chillies are applied to the swelling. The animal is also fumigated with wood smoke and a little country liquor is given it to drink. *Garāra Rog* :—The animal commences to breathe rapidly and with difficulty while the throat swells and it refuses to eat. The animal is then made to drink the blood of a freshly slaughtered goat and dung of a she-ass boiled in water is applied to the swelling. *Pīl Phulia Bai* :—The belly swells and urine will not pass—*Karaitas* (*Cicendia hyssopifolia*), *Hingota* (*Balanites roxburghii*) and green twigs of the *nīm* tree (*Melia indica*) are pounded up and put into an earthen jar which has a small hole in the bottom, the mouth being closed with an earthen dish. A pit is dug in the ground in which a vessel is placed and on it the jar is put. A fire is then kindled above the jar and the juice which collects in the lower vessel is mixed with cloves and given to the animal to drink. *Hing* (*assafetida*) and *ajwāin* (*Lingisticum ajowan*) each of one piece weight and the kernel of the *mingota* (one *chhatāk*) are ground into a powder and mixed with  $\frac{1}{4}$  seer of *gur* and given to the animal to eat. *Hiya bilai* :—A throat disease in which the animal is unable to breathe. The animal is fumigated with *ajwāin* (*Lingisticum ajowan*) and *assafetida* and is given the juice of the bark of *habūl* tree (*Acacia arabica*) mixed with ashes from the bones of a human being. This last acts as a purgative. *Donkia Rog* :—The horns become soft at the base, worms appear and the horn drops off, while the animal often dies. In the beginning of the disease the diseased part is cut away and *hartāl* and *sankhiā* are applied to the wound, the mouth of which is stopped by means of a wooden plug. If the worms continue *ajwāin* leaves and seeds are inserted into the wound. *Chechak* or *māla* (Cow-pox) :—Saliva flows from the animal's mouth and it becomes torpid and drinks much water. No remedial measures are taken. People simply worship Devī and make her offerings.



Rs. 20, for sheep and goats Re. 1 to Rs. 2 and for buffaloes Rs. 15 to Rs. 50.

Pasture grounds.

Ample pasture land exists in all parts of the State on which the people graze their cattle. In summer when there is no grass, the cultivators feed their cattle on the *joicār* stems (*karbi*) or *bhūsa* (chaff).

No difficulties are experienced in an ordinary year in feeding cattle. In a famine year they are fed on the *karbi* and *bhūsa* which the cultivators collected in the previous years.

Diseases.

The following are the cattle diseases most commonly met with and their remedies :—*Bhadaiyān Rog* :—The quarters and hind legs become swollen and then the neck. The animal breathes with difficulty and will not eat. To cure it the ears are split with a knife and powdered chillies are applied to the swelling. The animal is also fumigated with wood smoke and a little country liquor is given it to drink. *Garāra Rog* :—The animal commences to breathe rapidly and with difficulty while the throat swells and it refuses to eat. The animal is then made to drink the blood of a freshly slaughtered goat and dung of a she-ass boiled in water is applied to the swelling. *Pit Phulia Bai* :—The belly swells and urine will not pass—*Karaitas* (*Cicendia hyssopifolia*), *Hingota* (*Balanites roxburghii*) and green twigs of the *nīm* tree (*Melia indica*) are pounded up and put into an earthen jar which has a small hole in the bottom, the mouth being closed with an earthen dish. A pit is dug in the ground in which a vessel is placed and on it the jar is put. A fire is then kindled above the jar and the juice which collects in the lower vessel is mixed with cloves and given to the animal to drink. *Hing* (*assafœtida*) and *ajwāin* (*Lingisticum ajowan*) each of one pice weight and the kernel of the *mingota* (one *chhatāk*) are ground into a powder and mixed with  $\frac{1}{4}$  seer of *gur* and given to the animal to eat. *Hiya bilai* :—A throat disease in which the animal is unable to breathe. The animal is fumigated with *ajwāin* (*Lingisticum ajowan*) and *assafœtida* and is given the juice of the bark of *babūl* tree (*Acacia arabica*) mixed with ashes from the bones of a human being. This last acts as a purgative. *Donkia Rog* :—The horns become soft at the base, worms appear and the horn drops off, while the animal often dies. In the beginning of the disease the diseased part is cut away and *hartāl* and *sankhia* are applied to the wound, the mouth of which is stopped by means of a wooden plug. If the worms continue *ajwāin* leaves and seeds are inserted into the wound. *Chechak* or *māta* (Cow-pox) :—Saliva flows from the animal's mouth and it becomes torpid and drinks much water. No remedial measures are taken. People simply worship Devī and make her offerings.



Rs. 20, for sheep and goats Rs. 1 to Rs. 2 and for buffaloes Rs. 15 to Rs. 50.

Pasture grounds.

Amplo pasture land exists in all parts of the State on which the people graze their cattle. In summer when there is no grass, the cultivators feed their cattle on the *jocār* stems (*karbi*) or *bhūsa* (chaff).

No difficulties are experienced in an ordinary year in feeding cattle. In a famine year they are fed on the *karbi* and *bhūsa* which the cultivators collected in the previous years.

Diseases.

The following are the cattle diseases most commonly met with and their remedies :—*Bhadaiyān Rog* :—The quarters and hind legs become swollen and then the neck. The animal breathes with difficulty and will not eat. To cure it the ears are split with a knife and powdered chillies are applied to the swelling. The animal is also fumigated with wood smoke and a little country liquor is given it to drink. *Garāra Rog* :—The animal commences to breathe rapidly and with difficulty while the throat swells and it refuses to eat. The animal is then made to drink the blood of a freshly slaughtered goat and dung of a she-ass boiled in water is applied to the swelling. *Pit Phulia Bai* :—The belly swells and urine will not pass—*Karaitas* (*Cicendia hyssopifolia*), *Hingota* (*Balanites roxburghii*) and green twigs of the *nīm* tree (*Melia indica*) are pounded up and put into an earthen jar which has a small hole in the bottom, the mouth being closed with an earthen dish. A pit is dug in the ground in which a vessel is placed and on it the jar is put. A fire is then kindled above the jar and the juice which collects in the lower vessel is mixed with cloves and given to the animal to drink. *Hing* (*assafœtida*) and *ajwāin* (*Lingisticum ajowan*) each of one piceo weight and the kernel of the *mingota* (one *chhatāk*) are ground into a powder and mixed with  $\frac{1}{2}$  seer of *gur* and given to the animal to eat. *Hiya bilai* :—A throat disease in which the animal is unable to breathe. The animal is fumigated with *ajwāin* (*Lingisticum ajowan*) and *assafœtida* and is given the juice of the bark of *labūl* tree (*Acacia arabica*) mixed with ashes from the bones of a human being. This last acts as a purgative. *Donkia Rog* :—The horns become soft at the base, worms appear and the horn drops off, while the animal often dies. In the beginning of the disease the diseased part is cut away and *hartāl* and *sankhia* are applied to the wound, the mouth of which is stopped by means of a wooden plug. If the worms continue *ajwāin* leaves and seeds are inserted into the wound. *Cheehak* or *māta* (Cow-pox) :—Saliva flows from the animal's mouth and it becomes torpid and drinks much water. No remedial measures are taken. People simply worship Devī and make her offerings.



it is purified by recrystallisation and then exported for sale chiefly to Bhopal and Saugor, for making fireworks, and country powder. About 10 cwt. (280 maunds) are manufactured and exported yearly. Under the Salt Agreement of 1879 the manufacture is confined to 46 villages and the amount limited to a maximum of 4,000 maunds.

Salt.  
Building and  
Limestone.

Salt was formerly produced but the industry has died out almost entirely. The only other mineral is building stone which is extracted at various places. Limestone is found at Seora pahar, and a few other small hills. The stone is quarried by contractors who pay 2 to 3 annas a cubic foot as royalty.

#### Section V.—Arts and Manufactures.

Cloth, Dye-  
ing and  
Utensils,  
etc.

The ordinary coarse country cloth is made in most villages of any size. At Dheri village in Mahārājganj dyeing and printing is carried on, the cloth being exported to neighbouring villages. For the rest, the usual domestic utensils, rough country blankets and earthen pots are made in most places.

#### Section VI.—Commerce and Trade.

Trade is not in a very flourishing condition, although it has improved materially since the opening of the railway and the construction of a metalled road from Samthar to Moth station.

Imports.

The chief imports are piece-goods, salt, sugar, gur, metal and metal wares.

Wheat is the only important article of export.

Exports.  
Routes.

Since the opening of the railway in 1887 all goods are taken to Moth or Punch stations for export, whence they are sent to Kālpī, Cawnpore and Jhānsi.

Trade  
Centres.

Samthar, Mahārājganj, Amargarh and Lohāgarh are the chief trade centres. Baniās purchase from the cultivator and then export.

Hindu and Jain Baniās deal in cloth and grain, and ~~in~~ <sup>are</sup> ~~lenders~~ <sup>agents</sup> in grain, fruits, tobacco and miscellaneous articles. ~~Others~~ <sup>Agents</sup> are found in large villages, who act as agents to the Baniās, and at the same time supply necessaries to the cultivators; money-lending is very commonly combined with trading.

WEIGHTS  
AND  
MEASURES.  
Time.

The Vikram Samvat year is used by people generally, while official year commences on July 1st. The people follow the Samvat era commencing on Chait Sudī 1st.

#### Section VII.—Means of Communication.

Railway.

The Cawnpore-Jhānsi Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway passes through the State, but no stations lie within



it is purified by recrystallisation and then exported for sale chiefly to Bhopāl and Saugor, for making fireworks, and country powder. About 10 cwt. (280 maunds) are manufactured and exported yearly. Under the Salt Agreement of 1879 the manufacture is confined to 46 villages and the amount limited to a maximum of 4,000 maunds.

**Salt.** Salt was formerly produced but the industry has died out almost entirely. The only other mineral is building stone which is extracted at various places. Limestone is found at Seora pahār, and a few other small hills. The stone is quarried by contractors who pay 2 to 3 annas a cubic foot as royalty.

#### Section V.—Arts and Manufactures.

**Cloth, Dyeing and Utensils, etc.** The ordinary coarse country cloth is made in most villages of any size. At Dheri village in Mahārājganj dyeing and printing is carried on, the cloth being exported to neighbouring villages. For the rest, the usual domestic utensils, rough country blankets and earthen pots are made in most places.

#### Section VI.—Commerce and Trade.

Trade is not in a very flourishing condition, although it has improved materially since the opening of the railway and the construction of a metalled road from Samthar to Moth station.

**Imports.** The chief imports are piece-goods, salt, sugar, gur, metal and metal wares.

**Exports.** Wheat is the only important article of export.

**Routes.** Since the opening of the railway in 1887 all goods are taken to Moth or Punch stations for export, whence they are sent to Kālpī, Cawnpore and Jhānsi.

**Trade Centres.** Samthar, Mahārājganj, Amargarh and Lohāgarh are the chief trade centres. Baniās purchase from the cultivator and then export.

Hindu and Jain Baniās deal in cloth and grain, and Muhammadans in grain, fruits, tobacco and miscellaneous articles. Shop-keepers are found in large villages, who act as agents to the Baniās, and at the same time supply necessaries to the cultivators ; money-lending is very commonly combined with trading.

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.** The Vikram Samvat year is used by people generally, while official year commences on July 1st. The people follow the Samvat era commencing on *Chait Sudī* 1st.

#### Section VII.—Means of Communication.

**Railway.** The Cawnpore-Jhānsi Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway passes through the State, but no stations lie within

its territory. The nearest stations are Moth, 8 miles distant by metalled road, and Punch, 9 miles. The effect of the railway was most marked during the famine of 1897, grain being imported in large quantities.

One road is metalled, that from Samthar to Moth station, 8 miles in length, the remaining roads are all mere country tracks. There are in all 73 miles of roads of all classes.

A ferry is maintained at Mahārājganj, which is let out on contract at Rs. 80 per annum.

Imperial post offices have been opened at Samthar town and Amargarh (Amra). The nearest telegraph office is at Moth station, 8 miles from Samthar town.

Roads  
(Table XXV).

Ferries.

Post and  
Telegraphs  
(Table  
XXXI).

### Section VIII.—Famine.

#### • (TABLE XXX.)

Famine and scarcity are the results almost invariably of a year of deficient rainfall following on a succession of indifferent years. The people in such cases are driven to live on various jungle products, such as the fruit of the *gūlār* (*Ficus glomerata*), *ber* (*Ziziphus jujuba*), *dhunian* (a kind of *sāmān*), *nunian* (*Portulaca quadrifolia*), *cholai* (*Amaranthus ploygamus*) and *grasses*.

In 1896-97 and 1905 the only famines of which any detailed records exist occurred. Distress in the famine of 1897 was most acute. Relief works were opened and every endeavour made to assist the people. The Darbār spent Rs. 65,000 in affording relief. In 1905, 1·9 lakh were expended, the famine being locally of great severity.

Famines of  
1896-97 and  
1905.

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

(TABLES XVI TO XXVII.)

#### Section I.—Administration.

**Chief.** The Chief is the head of the administration. In all matters his powers are final.

**Vazir.** He is assisted by a minister or *razīr* who is the chief executive officer and exercises a general control over the working of all departments.

**Departments.** The principal departments of the administration are the *Huzūr-Darbār* or Chief's office; the *Darbār-i-ām* or *Vazīr's* office; the *Nizāmat* or Judicial; Treasury; Revenue; Customs; Education; Forests; Public Works; Police; and Medical Departments.

**Administrative Divisions (Table VIII).** The State is divided into four *tahsīls*, each being in charge of a *tahsīldār* who is the revenue officer, magistrate and civil judge for his charge. He is assisted by a *thānādār* of police, a treasurer and the usual office staff.

**Village Autonomy.** The system common in most places by which village affairs are managed by *patels* and others is not followed in the State. The *tahsīldār* is the sole authority and *patels* can only act under his orders.

The usual village artisans and servants such as the blacksmith, potter, barber, *chaukūlār* and others are found in the villages.

#### Section II.—Law and Justice.

(TABLES XVI AND XVII.)

**Legislation.** No legislative body or official is in charge of the legislation. The *razīr* acting under the Chief's orders from time to time issues such local orders and regulations as may be required and which have the force of law.

**Courts.** The lowest courts are those of the *tahsīldārs* who exercise approximately the powers of a magistrate of the 2nd class in British India. The next court is that of the *nāzīm* who is empowered to grant imprisonment up to 5 years. The court above the *nāzīm's* is that of the *darbār-i-ām* presided over by the *razīr* who hears all appeals from the *nāzīm's* decisions and can try any case. All cases, however, involving a sentence of transportation, imprisonment for life, or a capital sentence have to be sent up to the Chief for confirmation. The Chief's court known as the *Huzūr-Darbār* is the final appellate court in the State. The Chief exercises powers of life and death over his subjects. He hears all appeals from the *razīr*.

In civil and revenue cases the *nāzim* can hear suits up to Rs. 15,000 in value, the *vazīr* suits up to any value; appeals from the *nāzim* are to the *vazīr* and from the *vazīr* to His Highness.

The British India Acts used or followed as a guide in the State courts are the Indian Penal Code, Criminal and Civil Procedure Code, Police Act, Civil Procedure Code and Evidence Act.

Codes.

Certain local rules and regulations are also issued modifying these codes so as to suit local requirements.

Fees in civil suits are charged at the rate of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the subject matter of a suit, which brings in about Rs. 700 a year.

The cost of the judicial establishment is Rs. 45,000 a year.

### Section III.—Finance.

#### (TABLES XVIII AND XIX.)

Before the treaty made with the British the finances of the State were in a most unsettled condition.

The income of the State is believed to have been as much as 12 lakhs in Ranjit Singh I's time, but it is certain that in 1817 it only amounted to about 4 lakhs. All revenue is collected by the *tahsīldārs* and paid in the State treasury where accounts are checked.

The revenues of the State before its territories were reduced by the Marāthās are said to have amounted to 12 lakhs. The annual receipts are now 1·5 lakh, mostly derived from land. The expenditure is about 1·5 lakh.

Sources of  
Revenue  
and Expendi-  
ture.

The State never had a coinage of its own.

### Section IV.—Land Revenue.

#### (TABLE XX.)

A settlement was first made by Mahārājā Chhatar Singh in 1895, but no regular papers of village rights, etc., were made out, as all villages being *khālsā* it was considered unnecessary. All land is given out on farm to *ijāradārs*, who are responsible for the assessed revenue of their holding. The rates are fixed by the Darbār which grants *pattas* to the cultivator. The *ijāradār* is unable to alter the demand thus fixed in each individual case. Defaulters are summoned by a sepoy or sowar for whose keep they are obliged so long as the revenue due is not fully paid up, the sowar remaining until he obtains it.

System.

The rates are for *mār* soil from Rs. 4 to 2-8, for *kābar* from Rs. 2-8 to 1-8, *parua* from Re. 1-8 to 1 and *rānkar* from Re. 1

Rates.

to 4 annas. All revenue is received in cash by the Darbār though occasionally paid in kind to *ijāradārs* by cultivators.

The incidence per head is about Rs. 4.

Remissions and suspensions are granted in bad years. After the famine of 1897 a whole year's revenue was remitted while cesses were realised in eight easy instalments, other arrears being remitted in honour of the Coronation of King Edward VII.

#### Section V.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

(TABLE XXI.)

Opium.

No poppy is cultivated in the State, but a contract for the importation of opium is given out yearly for Rs. 500. Country liquor is the only intoxicant sold in any quantity. It is distilled from the flowers of the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*). The right to distillation and vend is sold yearly by auction and brings in about Rs. 1,400. The number of retail shops is 32.

Customs.

The only important tax is the *bayāi* or weighing tax levied at the rate of 15 annas 6 pies on every Rs. 100 worth of goods of all kinds. This brings in about Rs. 2,000 a year.

Stamps.

Judicial stamps are used in the courts, and produce a revenue of about Rs. 700 a year. Stamps were first introduced in 1872.

#### Section VI.—Public Works.

Locally this department is known as the *nambar* department; it deals with all roads and buildings.

#### Section VII.—Army.

(TABLE XXV.)

The State troops exclusive of officers comprise the Chief's bodyguard of 40 sepoys and 12 sowars, and some 200 irregular horse and 254 foot who assist district officials.

The artillery number 50 men with 6 serviceable guns. The men and their officers are chiefly paid by grants of land.

#### Section VIII.—Police and Jails.

(TABLES XXIV AND XXVI.)

Police  
and Jails.

A small police force of 74 has just been raised. The rural police number 128. A jail has been opened in the chief town.

#### Section IX.—Education.

(TABLE XXIII.)

Two schools have been established at the capital and at Lohāgarh, the former teaches English as well as the Vernacular, the latter Vernacular only. There is also one private school.

Section X.—Medical.  
(TABLE XXVII.)

A hospital has been established at Samthar town under a hospital assistant. The average daily attendance is 60 persons. Vaccination is carried on, about 3 per cent. of the population being protected.

---

**CHAPTER IV.**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS**  
**AND**  
**GAZETTEER.**

The State is divided into 5 divisions, the main statistics are summarised below :—

Name of Tahsil.	Area in		Num-ber of		Population (1901).	Cultivated Area in Acres.		Income of the State.		
	Sq. miles	Acre.	Towns	Villages		Total.	Irrigated.	Forests, acres.	Total.	Land Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Shamshergarh (Samthar)	..	49	50,000	1	28	13,511	18,700	200	8,100	1,45,500
Amargarh	..	11	23,200	..	21	6,591	10,300	100	200	81,000
Lohagarh	..	47	30,700	..	22	7,661	16,600	100	400	1,20,300
Mahārājganj	..	38	21,500	..	20	5,703	9,200	100	2,600	75,100
<b>TOTAL</b>	..	178	113,000	1	(a)	33,472	51,600	500	12,600	4,93,700

**GAZETTEER.**

**Amargarh, tahsil Amargarh:**—Headquarters of the tahsil of the same name, situated in 25° 41' N., and 78° 55' E., 10 miles south of Samthar. It possesses a small fort which contains a cave called *Amar-Siddh-ki-Gufa*. It has a small bazar. Its population in 1901 amounted to 1,546 persons; 822 males, 724 females; 477 occupied houses.

**Amgaon, tahsil Mahārājganj:**—A village situated in 25° 49' N., and 79° 3' E., 6 miles south-east of Shamshergarh. It has a small fortress. Population, in 1901, was 428 persons, of which 228 were males and 200 females; occupied houses 77.

(a). Since the Census of 1901, 10 new villages have been brought upon the Register.

**Amrokha, tahsīl Amargarh:**—A village lying in  $25^{\circ} 47' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 3' E.$ , 8 miles east of Shamshergarh. The population, in 1901, amounted to 551 persons, including 298 males, and 253 females with 132 occupied houses.

**Bābai, tahsīl Mahārājganj:**—A village situated in  $25^{\circ} 51' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 3' E.$ , 6 miles east of Shamshergarh with a small fortress outside the village. Population, in 1901, was 493 persons; 256 males and 237 females; occupied houses 103.

**Basboi, tahsīl Amargarh:**—A village situated in  $25^{\circ} 47' N.$ , and  $78^{\circ} 59' E.$ , 4 miles east of Shamshergarh. A small fortress stands near the village. Population, in 1901, was 522 persons; 276 males and 246 females; occupied houses 113.

**Budheraghāt, tahsīl Lohāgarh:**—A village in  $25^{\circ} 54' N.$ , and  $78^{\circ} 56' E.$ , situated at a distance of 4 miles north-west of Shamshergarh. It contains a large number of Gusāins' samādhīs. Population, in 1901, was 240 persons; 129 males and 111 females; occupied houses 48.

**Chhapār, tahsīl Amargarh:**—A village situated in  $25^{\circ} 43' N.$ , and  $78^{\circ} 58' E.$ , 5 miles south of Shamshergarh. It has a small carhī. Population, in 1901, was 498 persons; 265 males and 233 females; occupied houses 90.

**Debīpur, tahsīl Lohāgarh:**—A village lying in  $25^{\circ} 51' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 0' E.$ , 3 miles north of Shamshergarh. A fair is held in the village. A temple of Devī stands in the village. This goddess was formerly worshipped by one Malkhān Sirsewāla, the general of Parmārdideva, a Chandella chief. He belonged to the family of Alāh and Udal, the well-known Banāphar hero. Population, in 1901, was 45 persons; 23 males, 22 females; occupied houses 9.

**Dherī**—See Mahārājganj.

**Gadhūkā, tahsīl Amargarh:**—It is situated in  $25^{\circ} 41' N.$ , and  $78^{\circ} 54' E.$ , 10 miles south of Shamshergarh. It is known for its fort. Population, in 1901, was 426 persons; 220 males and 206 females; 106 occupied houses.

**Ira, tahsīl Lohāgarh:**—A village 6 miles north-east of Shamshergarh lying in  $25^{\circ} 56' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 3' E.$  It has a small fort. Population, in 1901, was 160 persons; 87 males, 73 females and 39 occupied houses.

**Lohāgarh, tahsīl Lohāgarh:**—Headquarters of the tahsīl of the same name situated in  $25^{\circ} 54' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 1' E.$ , 6 miles north of Shamshergarh. Besides the tahsīl it has a small fortress. Population, in 1901, was 1,728 persons; 892 males, 836 females; occupied houses 436.

**Mahārājganj or Dherī, tahsīl Mahārājganj:**—Headquarters of the tahsīl of same name, situated in  $26^{\circ} 49' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 10' E.$ , 12 miles east of Samithar, the capital town. It is a considerable

trade centre. Country cloths dyed in red colour are extensively exported from this place. Population, in 1901, was 1,805 persons, including 947 males and 958 females; occupied houses 522.

**Marhpura, tahsil Amargarh:**—A village situated in 25° 48' N., and 79° 8' E., 8 miles east of Shamshergarh. It is important only for fair held in the village and a temple of Kapil Nāth Mahādeo which stands just outside the village. To the west of this temple is a cave in the Scora hill. The waters of a spring in the cave are considered beneficial in arresting the growth of *gerua* or rust on crops. Population, in 1901, was 19 persons; 9 males and 10 females; occupied houses 4.

**Paharpura, tahsil Sākin:**—A village situated in 25° 50' N., and 78° 56' E., . . . . . of Shamshergarh. An idol of Jānkī or Sītā, the wife of Rāmchandra, stands in the village. A big fair is held here when the idol of Rāmchandra is brought to the village from Shamshergarh. Population, in 1901, was 565 persons; 301 males, 264 females; occupied houses 117.

**Sākin, tahsil Lohāgarh:**—A village situated in 25° 54' N., and 79° 1' E., 4 miles north-east of Shamshergarh. Population, in 1901, was 1,304 persons; 668 males and 636 females; occupied houses 317.

**Sāmī, tahsil Lohāgarh:**—An isolated village, 14 miles north of Shamshergarh, situated in 26° 2' N., and 79° 7' E. This place was in 1880 assigned as the residence of Mahārājā Hindūpat, grandfather of the present Chief. The uncle of the present Chief, Arjun Singh or Alī Bahādur, still lives here. Population, in 1901, was 118 persons; 62 males and 56 females; occupied houses 25.

**Samthar or Shamshergarh, tahsil Shamshergarh:**—The chief town is situated in 25° 50' N., and 78° 58' E. It is 8 miles by metalled road from Moth station on the Cawnpore Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. The place was founded before the 16th century, but was made a place of importance by Chhatar Singh who rebuilt the fort.

Population was 1881, 7,991; 1891, 7,856; 1901, 8,286; males 4,504, females 3,782; occupied houses numbered 1,972. Classified by religions there were 7,221 or 37 per cent. Hindus, 1,062 or 13 per cent. Muhammadans and 3 Jains. (The proportion of Muhammadans is large).

**Sersa, tahsil Lohāgarh:**—A village 6 miles north-east of Shamshergarh, situated in 25° 51' N., and 79° 5' E. Population, in 1901, was 1,144 persons; 577 males and 567 females; 347 occupied houses.

**Sesa, tahsil Mahārājganj:**—A village 10 miles east of

Shamshergarh in  $25^{\circ} 50'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 8'$  E. It contains a *garhī* and an encamping ground. Population was, in 1901, 499 persons, including 254 males and 245 females; occupied houses 122.

**Shāhjahānpur**, *tahsīl* Shamshergarh :—A village 6 miles south of Shamshergarh in  $25^{\circ} 45'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 2'$  E. A *garhī* stands in the village. Population, in 1901, was 809 persons; 418 males, 391 females; occupied houses 179.

---



**ENGAGEMENT concluded between the BRITISH  
GOVERNMENT and RAJAH RUNJEET SINGH  
of SUMPTHUR, dated 12th November 1817.**

Whereas Rajah Runjeet Singh, Rajah of Sumpthur, with a view to obtain the powerful protection of the British Government, presented on the 22nd of February 1805, corresponding with the 3rd of Phagoon 1216 Fuslee, to Colonel John Baillie, then Agent to the Governor-General in the Province of Bundelkhund, a Wajib-ool-Urz, or Paper of Requests, containing six distinct Articles, all of which were either complied with or answered; and Whereas circumstances occurred some time afterwards to prevent that preliminary arrangement from terminating in a definitive Treaty between the Honorable Company and the Rajah Runjeet Singh; and Whereas the Rajah having since repeatedly and earnestly solicited to be placed under the protection of the British Government, and having on several occasions manifested his loyalty and attachment to it, both by professions and acts, the British Government, relying on the continuance of those sentiments, and on the Rajah's strict adherence to whatever engagements he may form on the basis of a more intimate union of his interests with those of the Honorable Company, has now acceded to the Rajah's request, and the following Articles of a Treaty of Alliance are accordingly contracted between the British Government and Rajah Runjeet Singh, his heirs and successors:—

**ARTICLE 1.**

Rajah Runjeet Singh, Rajah of Sumpthur, being hereby admitted among the allies of the British Government, engages to consider the friends of that Government as his friends, and its enemies as his enemies. He further engages to give no molestation to any Chief or State in amity with the British Government, but considering all persons who may be disaffected to that Government as his own enemies, he promises to afford no protection to them or their families in his country, to hold no intercourse with them whatever, and to use every means in his power to seize and deliver them up to the Officers of the British Government.

**ARTICLE 2.**

The British Government, with a view to confirm the attachment and fidelity of the Government of Sumpthur, hereby guarantees to Rajah Runjeet Singh, his heirs and successors, the territory actually possessed by him at the period of the

establishment of the British Government in Bundelkund, and now in his occupation, and the British Government hereby agrees to protect and defend the same from the aggressions of any foreign power.

### ARTICLE 3.

The British Government having by the terms of the foregoing Article engaged to protect the Rajah of Sumpthur from the aggressions of any foreign power, it is hereby agreed between the contracting parties, that whenever the Rajah shall have reason to apprehend a design on the part of any foreign power to invade his territories, whether in consequence of any disputed claim or on any other ground, he shall report the circumstances of the case to the British Government, which will interpose its mediation for the adjustment of such disputed claim, and the Rajah, relying on the justice and equity of the British Government, agrees implicitly to abide by its award. If the apprehended aggression shall be referable to any other cause, the British Government will endeavour by representation and remonstrance to avert the design, and if, notwithstanding the Rajah's acquiescence in the award of the British Government, the other power shall persist in its hostile designs, and the endeavours of the British Government should fail of success, such measures will be adopted for the protection of the Rajah's territories as the circumstances of the case may appear to require.

### ARTICLE 4.

In consideration of the guarantee and protection extended by the two foregoing Articles to the Rajah of Sumpthur, the Rajah hereby binds himself at his own expense to employ his troops whenever required to do so, in co-operation with those of the British Government, on all occasions in which the interests of the two Governments may be mutually concerned. On all such occasions the Sumpthur troops shall act under the orders and control of the Commanding Officer of the British troops.

### ARTICLE 5.

If at any time the Rajah of Sumpthur shall have any claim or cause of complaint against any of the Rajahs or Chiefs allied to or defendant on the British Government, the Rajah engages to refer the case to the arbitration and decision of that Government, and to abide by its award, and on no account to commit aggression against the other party, or to employ his

own force for the satisfaction of such claim, or for the redress of the grievance of which he may complain. On the other hand, the British Government engages to withhold its allies or dependants from committing any aggression against the Rajah of Sumpthur, and to arbitrate any demand they may have upon the Rajah of Sumpthur, according to the strict principles of justice, the Rajah on his part agreeing implicitly to abide by its award.

#### ARTICLE 6.

The Rajah of Sumpthur engages at all times to employ his utmost exertions in defending the roads and passes of his country against any enemies or predatory bodies who may attempt to penetrate through it into the territories of the Honorable Company.

#### ARTICLE 7.

Whenever the British Government may have occasion to send its troops through the dominions of the Rajah of Sumpthur, or to station a British force within his territories, it shall be competent to the British Government so to detach or station its troops, and the Rajah of Sumpthur shall give his consent accordingly. The Commander of the British troops which shall thus eventually pass through or permanently occupy a position within the Rajah's territories shall not in any manner interfere in the internal concerns of the Rajah's Government.

Whatever materials or supplies may be required for the use of the British troops during their continuance in the Rajah's territories shall be readily furnished by the Rajah's officers and subjects, and shall be paid for at the price current of the bazar.

#### ARTICLE 8.

The Rajah engages never to entertain in his service any British subject or European of any nation or description whatever, without the consent of the British Government.

#### ARTICLE 9.

The Rajah of Sumpthur hereby binds himself to maintain no correspondence with foreign States without the privity and consent of the British Government.

#### ARTICLE 10.

The Rajah engages to give no asylum to criminals nor to defaulters of the British Government who may abscond and take refuge within his territory; and should the Officers of the

British Government be sent in pursuit of such criminals, and defaulters, the Rajah further engages to afford such Officers every assistance in his power in apprehending them.

#### ARTICLE 11.

This Treaty, consisting of eleven Articles, having this day been concluded between the British Government and Rajah Runjeet Singh, the Rajah of Sumpthur, through the agency of John Wauchope, Esquire, in virtue of powers delegated to him by the Most Noble the Governor-General on the one part, and Dureao Singh, vakeel of the said Rajah on the other, Mr. Wauchope and the vakeel have signed and sealed two copies of Treaty in English, Persian, and Hindoo, one of which, after being ratified by the seal and signature of the Most Noble the Marquis of Hastings, Governor-General, will be delivered to-morrow to the said vakeel, and the said vakeel having obtained the ratification of the Rajah to the other copy, engages to deliver it within the same time to Mr. Wauchope.

*Signed, sealed, and exchanged at Terait, on the 12th day of November 1817, corresponding with 18th Kartick 1874 Sunbul, and second of Mohurruim 1233 Higeree.*

This Treaty was ratified by His Excellency the Governor-General in Camp near Talgong, on the 13th day of November 1817.

#### APPENDIX B.

##### THE GURJARAS OR GUJARS.

The origin, early history, and later development of the Gurjaras are of such unusual interest that a note directing attention to the literature on the subject will not be out of place, especially as the history narrated in this Gazetteer is that given in the traditions of the ruling family unchecked by the results of modern research.

**Name.** Various derivations of the name Gurjara of which Gujar is a corruption, are given. Of these that now generally accepted is from Khazar, the name given to the White Huns or Ephthalites; a modern derivation from Goehar, cattle grazer, or Gochor, cattle thief, has also been put forward, but is inadmissible on etymological grounds.

**History.** The early history of the tribe shows that they entered India between A. D. 470 and 520 forming part of the horde which came down from the plains of Central Asia under the leadership of the White Huns. In Indian writings the Huns are called Hunas, Mihiras or Mers, the two latter appellations referring to their being worshippers of Mihira, the Sun. There were two elephants among them, a light-skinned and a dark,

known respectively as the Ak-khazar and Kara-khazar. After their settlement in India they became known through the corruption of the name Khazar as the Gūrjaras or Gūjars. The name Mihira fell into disuse when its bearers gave up sun worship for Saivism. The grants of Jayabhatta of Broach show how the Gūrjaras who proved useful warriors were accepted by the Brāhmans, and promoted to Kshatriya rank,<sup>1</sup> developing into Rājputs, the promoted section dropping the term Gūjar which was thenceforth applied only to the lower classes. The name Gūjar had, however, already given its title to Gujarāt.

Before the 10th century the Gūjars had settled in Rājputāna and Gujarāt. They held according to the Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsiang (A. D. 640) the country of Kiu-che-lo, that is, Gūrjara of which he gives the boundaries as Saurāsthra (modern Gujarat), Anandapura (Vadnagar), Ujjayani (Ujjain), Sindhu (Sindh) and Mūlasthānapura which are those of Rājputāna. Other proofs exist of their power having extended as far eastwards as the province of Bengal.

The most interesting part, however, of their history is that which deals with the development out of the original Gūrjara stock of many of the well-known Rājput tribes, the Rāshtrakātas, the four Agnikula clans, the Chāvadas, Vallabhīs and others.

"At the present day the Gūjars are found in great numbers in every part of the north-west of India from the Indus to the Ganges and from the Hazara mountains to the Peninsula of Gujarāt. They are especially numerous along the border of the upper Jumna near Jagādri and Buriya, and in the Sahāranpur District which during the last century was actually called Gujarāt. To the east they occupy the petty states of Samptar in Bundelkhand, and one of the northern districts of Gwalior is still called Gūjarghār.

They are found only in small bodies and much scattered throughout eastern Rājputāna and Gwalior but they are more numerous in the western states and especially towards Gujarāt where they form a large part of the population."<sup>2</sup>

In the United Provinces the Gūjars do not, as a rule, claim to be Rājputs but state that they are descended from a Rājput father and a woman of lower caste. An examination of their sections shows the names of Bais, Chandel, Chauhān and Tomār.<sup>3</sup>

1. *Indian Antiquary*, V, 109; XIII, 70.

2. A. Cunningham—*Archæological Survey Reports*, II, 71.

3. W. Crookes—"Tribes and Castes of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh," *sub rote*.

Bar-Gūjar :—The Samthar chief traces descent from the Bar-Gūjars. This section of the Gūjars is admitted by Tod into the thirty-six royal races while the Gūjars are excluded.<sup>1</sup>

The Bar-Gūjars claim descent from Lava, the son of Rāma.

The Bar-Gūjars appear to represent a separate section of the original Khazar horde.

It is possible that they are the descendants of the White section of the Khazars. The origin of the name is not certain but may be simply *bara*, great, or *bada* or *bede*, meaning northern, and term applied to Turks and Nigars; a form Bar-Gūjar or Gūjar of the hills is also met with.

According to Tod they migrated to Anūpshahr on their expulsion from Rājor by Sawai Jai Singh of Amber. Anūpshahr had long been a Gūjar settlement.

Rājor, whence they assert they came, was the capital of Deoti in Alwar. They were led by Rājā Pratāp Singh who ultimately acquired considerable possessions. At the time of his death Chaundera near Pahāsu in the Bulandshahr District was the headquarters of the Bar-Gūjar rule in the United Provinces.

Pratāp left two sons, Jabu and Rānu, of whom Jabu migrated to Katchar in Rohilkhand. Most of the Gūjars of the *doāb* are Musalmān but those of Anūpshahr and Katchar are still Hindus. The Musalmān Gūjars, however, still retain the title Thākur giving rise to such curious combinations as Thākur Akbar Ali Khān. The Muzaffarnagar Gūjars came from Deosa or Dhain-Dewasa in Alwar, led by one Kura Sen.

Deosa lies 30 miles east of Jodhpur on the Bānganga river. It was the first place seized by the Kachhwāhas on their migration from Narwar in the middle of the 10th century.

The Sikkarwāri Rājputs in Gwalior are Bar-Gūjar Rājputs. The story they tell is that they were obliged to take refuge in Fatehpur-Sikri. They were given asylum on the understanding that they adopted the name Sikri.

Another account simply derives this name from that of a place Sikni or Sikri on the Chambal, but it is possible the place obtained its name from the tribe.

---

1. *Annals*, II, 336.

In the Census of 1901 there were 164,179; males 88,912, females 75,267. They were distributed thus :—

Agency.		Males.	Females.	Total.
Gwalior Residency	...	46,829	36,973	83,802
Indore Residency	...	748	647	1,395
Baghelkhand Agency	...	88	110	198
Bhopāl	"	14,078	12,293	26,371
Bhopāwar	"	4,779	5,563	10,342
Bundelkhand	"	4,129	3,551	7,680
Indore	"	1,072	864	1,936
Malwā	"	17,189	15,266	32,455

The following Rājput names occurred among their subsections Bais, Chandella, Chauhān, Chaura, Gahlot, Kachhwāha, Parmāra, Rāthor and Solanki.

*Bibliography* :—Besides those quoted above,

Bombay Gazetteer, Vol. I, Pt. I, especially Appendix D, p. 449-*ibid* Vol. IX, Appendix B, p. 469.

Journal of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. D. Bhāndārkar "Dighwa-Dabauli Plate," p. 405 "Gurjaras," p. 413.

Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society Papers by Dr. Hœrule, Vol. for 1903, p. 545; Vol. for 1904, p. 639; Vol. for 1905, p. 1.

With reference to the remarks in the Preface as to the claims of the Samthar Darbār to independence from an early date, claims for which there is, however, no sufficient historical support, the following statement by the Darbār setting out these claims is attached for information.

Our family is descended from the Bar-Gūjar clan, one Sūraj-Bans being the founder. His descendants were the rulers of Panchāla, Sindh, Gujarāt, etc. One Deo-sut held Gujarāt and Mewāt. Seventh in descent from him came Ked Rao, a very powerful chief, who held Gujarāt when Alexander the Great invaded his dominions. Deo-sut came to terms with the Macedonian King and a great battle was thus avoided. This statement will be found to be fully borne out by the records of Alexander's travels.

Ked Rao's descendants ruled at Lahore for nine generations, the last king being Chandra Sen, who fought with and defeated Subuktagin, driving him back to Ghazni. Ratan Sen succeeded Chandra Sen, and his descendant in the third generation was Rām Rao Bar-Gūjar, Rājā of Rājor-Deoti. Rājā Rām was killed in fighting for Prithwi Rāj Chauhan, and his family then broke up into several branches ruling separate states, Anūpshahar, Lidhora, Gujrānwāla and Rājor-Deoti, being separate principalities.

Rājā Rām was succeeded in Deoti by Mādho Singh, and he by Kamod Singh who built the town of Khatyāna and was granted the rank of "Bist-Hazāri" and the title of Mahārājā by the Emperor of Delhi. Kamod Singh was followed by Chandrabhān Singh who was attacked for not giving a daughter in marriage to the Emperor and fled to the Deccan.

He afterwards conquered the country round Irich, Kālpi, Kunch and Bhānder and made Samthar his capital. He died at Samthar and was succeeded by Parībhān Singh. This ruler was despoiled of most of his lands by the Delhi Emperor and was succeeded by his son Daya Rām Singh, who was followed by Paras Rām Singh. He left three sons Nauro Shāh, Sūrat Singh and Bhopāl Singh. Nauro Shāh succeeded and ruled from 1725-70. He left two sons Bishan Singh who succeeded, and Devī Singh. Devī Singh succeeded in 1780, and left three sons Pahār Singh, Bijai Bahādur and Ranjit Singh, of whom the two first died young and Ranjit Singh succeeded.



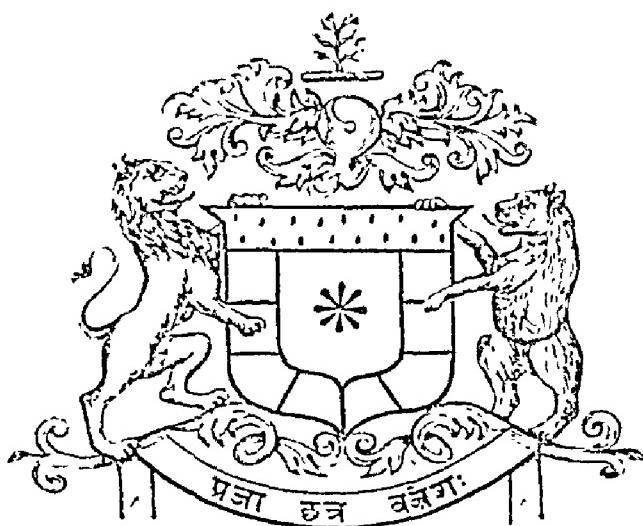




PANNA STATE.



## ARMS OF THE PANNA STATE.



**Arms:**—Purpure : an escarbuncle or within a bordure gobony argent and sable, a chief of the second gutty de sang.

**Crest:**—A green tree. **Supporters:**—Lion and bear.

**Motto:**—*Praja chhatra rajreshah*. “The lord of the thunderbolt (or of diamonds) is the protector of the people.”

**Note.**—The colour, purple, is that affected by the Bundelās, while the escarbuncle refers to *rajra*, a word meaning both thunderbolt and diamonds. The tree is the *pīpal* (*Ficus religiosa*) which appears to be the badge of the Pannā house.

**Gotrāchār**—(See Orchhā State.)

---







# CHAPTER I.

## DESCRIPTIVE.

### Section I.—Physical Aspects.

Pannā is a *sanad* State in the Bundelkhand Political Charge of the Central India Agency, lying principally between north latitude  $23^{\circ} 50'$  and  $25^{\circ} 2'$  and east longitude  $79^{\circ} 45'$  and  $80^{\circ} 42'$ . Situation.

The State, which has an area of 2,371 square miles, consists of several detached blocks, the *tahsils* of Pannā, Pawai and Mahodra form a fairly compact block ; Malahra lies to the south-west of this block, Aktohān wholly in the Bānda District; Dharampur just south of the Bānda District, and Birsingpur to the east, near the States of Kothī and Sohāwal.

The territories fall into two natural divisions, a hilly tract situated along the line of the Pannā range, and the level country in the valleys of the Ken and its affluent, the Mirhasan. In the first tract the country is rough, much cut up by hills and covered for the most part with heavy forest ; the other section, known as the Haveli valley, consists of a level alluvial plain. The scenery in the hilly tract is in many places very fine, especially along the valley of the Ken. NATURAL DIVISIONS AND SCENERY.

The name is popularly said to be derived from Padmāvati, an old temple dedicated to this goddess standing on the banks of the Kilkila stream, which flows close to the present chief town. It may possibly be connected with the diamonds found here. Name.

The State is bounded on the north by the Bānda District and the States of Ajaigarh and Bhaisaunda ; on the east by the States of Kothī, Nāgod and Ajaigarh ; on the south by the Jabalpur and Damoh Districts ; and on the west by the Chhatarpur, Charkhārī and Bijāwar States and the Alipura Jāgir. The isolated *tahsil* of Malahra is surrounded by the Central Provinces on three sides, and by Bijāwar State on the north ; Birsingpur lies between the Sohāwal and Kothī States. Boundaries.

The Pannā range is the chief hill system in the State, which, striking from south-west to north-east, forms the watershed of this tract, all streams flowing in a general south-easterly and north-westerly direction from it. HILLS.

The range averages 1,100 feet above sea-level. East of Pannā town, a hill called the Madār-tunga, or Madār's hill, rises to 1,557 feet, and is of local importance on account of a cave

containing a Pir's tomb said to be that of Madār Shāh.<sup>1</sup> It is a place of pilgrimage for Muhammadans of the neighbourhood. A tall *bahera* (*Terminalia belerica*) marks the summit. In the Mahodra *tahsil* the Jotpnur Fort stands on the Bhundar pahūr and in Malahra the Naināgir hill (24° 28' N., 79° 9' E.) with its collection of Jain temples, is also important.

## RIVERS.

The effect of the Pannā range, as already mentioned, is to cause all the small streams to flow in a south-easterly direction on the east side, and a north-westerly direction on the west side, to join the main systems of the Ken, Dhasūn and Tons, these main systems having a northern flow towards the Jumna.

The Ken forces its way through the Shāhnagar hills and then, turning north, after traversing Simaria and Pawai, forms the boundary between Pannā and Chhattarpur. The Dhasūn waters the Malahra *tahsil*. A canal has been constructed by the British Government at Bariarpur, with a reservoir at Gangao, to supply the Bānda District.

Other streams are the Baghain, an affluent of the Jumna, which flows through the Dharampur *sub-tahsil*, the Asrāwal and Sitāwal in Birsingpur, the Patnai and Barmai in Mahodra, and many smaller *nālas* and water-courses. None of these rivers is used for irrigation to any extent.

## TANKS.

No very large tanks exist in the State. Several are situated round Pannā town, including the Dharamsāgar at the foot of the Madār-tunga, while others are located at Guara, Bānda and Panwārī villages, in the Malahra *tahsil*.

GEOLOGY.<sup>2</sup>

The territories of the Pannā State show a well-marked correspondence between their physical and geological features, a characteristic of all regions that have long been subjected to the simple action of denudation.

Two main formations are met with, which divide Bundelkhand into very different regions; one, lying chiefly in the north, consists of a low-lying granitic plain, the other in the south of a more elevated tract, in which sedimentary rocks, specially sandstones, predominate.

The formations met with in the State are :—

1. Archean.
2. Bijawar.
3. Vindhyan.

1. It is probable that this is one of the places commemorative of Baddi-ud-dia Madār Shāh, the well-known saint of the 15th century, who seems to have left many such shrines at places at which he halted in his wanderings, often with the tomb of some disciple located at it.

2. By Mr. E. Vredenburg, *Geological Survey of India*.

4. Lamela.
5. Deccan Trap.
6. Laterite.
7. Recent and sub-recent alluvial soil and calcareous tufa.

The oldest formation (1) consists of Bundelkhand gneiss ; the Vindhyan rocks form the southern uplands, while the Bijāwars (2) intervene between it and the gneiss. Deccan Trap is met with in the Baxwāhō *tahsil*, and in a few isolated patches south-west of Pannā, where it is associated with Laterite (6). Over the whole southern region, Laterite is widely spread, either in compact masses or in flat-topped hills, or as nodules disseminated through the surface soil ; occasionally the proportion is so large as to convert the soil into a lateritic gravel. Alluvium (7) is found in all the broader valleys, merging into the gangetic alluvium. The calcareous tufa which are found in river gorges constitute an important formation.

The Bundelkhand gneiss or granite is a typical coarse grained granite consisting of quartz, felspar (orthoclase chiefly), and hornblende. It is the presence of orthoclase in large, cleavable pink crystals that gives this rock its characteristic appearance. The quartz is a whitish or bluish grey and translucent ; the hornblende is dark in colour.

Bundelkhand  
gneiss,

The abrupt wall-like ridges of quartz which traverse the granitic region are a conspicuous feature ; they strike north-east. The other characteristic of this region is the succession of linear dykes of igneous rock which strike approximately at right-angles to the quartz ridges. They appear to represent a period of volcanic activity contemporaneous with the Bijāwar system.

Similar dykes occur in Southern India associated with diamond-bearing tracts, and may have some genetic relation to these precious stones.

Near Pathar Chankī, on the road from Pannā to Shāhghāt, a series of thin-bedded, faintly-banded quartzose rocks occur, which has hitherto been classed as of the Bijāwar system, but which is more probably of the Arāvalli class.

Arāvallis.

The outcrop of sedimentary rocks round Bijāwar, of which a considerable portion lies in the State, has been dealt with in detail by Mr. Medlicott.<sup>1</sup> These rocks contain a considerable amount of haematite. Owing to the disturbance which these

Bijāwars,

<sup>1</sup>. *Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India*, II, 35-48.

rocks have undergone, the Vindhyanas rest upon them quite unconformably.

Vindhyanas,  
Lower  
Vindhyanas.

The Vindhyanas are well represented. Of the Lower Vindhyanas, the Semri division is well exposed in an outcrop at the waterfall at Pathar Chauki on the road from Shāhghāt to Pannā. The lowest member of this series is a harsh sandstone often conglomeratic, which rests on the rocks referred to above as being in all probability of the Arāvalli series. Above the harsh sandstone is a hard siliceous cherty rock, like an indurated shale, rather than a sandstone overlaid by an indurated quartzitic sandstone, which forms the ledge from which the waterfall tumbles. Other rocks of this formation are the Palkua shales, which are remarkable for a dense black colour, that has caused them to be mistaken for coal. In the valley of the Baghain and Ranj a green quartzitic sandstone is found, intensely hard and of a greenish colour. Good exposures of the Palkua shales occur between Pathar Chauki and Bakchor Chauki. Above the shales lie the Tirowān limestones, which are exposed in the valley of the Barano river.

The Upper Vindhyanas have been fully dealt with by Mr. Mallet. 1. These consist of massive beds of first class building stone of fine and even grain, especially well developed in the Upper Kaimur and Upper Bhānder series. While the main features are remarkably constant, the subsidiary rocks exhibit considerable local differences. The most interesting of these rocks are the Kaimur conglomerates in which the diamonds are found. 2.

Deccan Trap,  
Lametas and  
Laterite.

In the neighbourhood of Baxwāho only, are volcanic rocks of the Deccan Trap period, met with in any quantity, though the masses of laterite further east shew the large area over which this formation once spread.

Lametas.

Below the Trap the Lametas are found, consisting of a loose sandstone; remnants of this formation lie round Pannā and large masses at Baxwāho.

In the Laterite hills south-west of Pannā typical bauxites occur, but could not be profitably worked for aluminium.

Recent  
formations.

Of recent formations true alluvium exists only in the river beds. Calcareous tufa are deposited by water holding carbonate of lime in solution, and form large masses near waterfalls and other places where evaporation is rapid. The limestone in such formations is of great purity.

1. *Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India*, VII, Pt. I.

2. See Chapter II, Section IV.—Mines and Minerals.

The most important mineral deposit is that of the diamonds dealt with elsewhere.

Mineral Deposits.

Besides these gems, however, the Kaimurs afford some of the finest building stone in India. The colour varies from white to pale yellow. At Khajrāho it has been used in the old temples. The quarry from which this stone was obtained appears to have been situated in the Jhinna pahār.

Building stone.

Two classes of iron ore are found, one lateritic and the other haematitic. They were once worked to a considerable extent, but the industry has been killed by competition with imported iron.

Iron.

The calcareous tufa are worked to a small extent for their lime. Large outcrops of Bhānder limestone occur in the south of the State, which contain an immense store of this mineral.

Lime.

The vegetation consists chiefly of scrubby forest of shrubs of the species *Grewia*, *Zizyphus*, *Carissa*, *Woodfordia*, *Flueggia*, *Phyllanthus* and *Capparis*, with small trees of *Anogeissus*, *Acacia*, *Terminalia*, *Boswellia*, *Butea*, *Bassia*, *Diospyros* and other characteristic Central India trees.

BOTANY.<sup>1</sup>

The wild animals now met with in Pannā differ in no way from those which occur elsewhere in India. Elephants were common in the State forests in Mughal days, and Abul Fazl<sup>2</sup> notes that the Pannā animals were the best. Though elephants are no longer encountered in the wild state, Pannā is still known as a place where these animals breed easily.

FAUNA.

Tiger, leopard, black-buck (*Antilope cervicapra*), chinkāra (*Gazella benetii*), roz (*Antilope tragocamelos*), wild dogs, wolves, hyenas, etc., are found. Tigers are most common in the Shāhnagar pargana. Two miles from Mandla village (24° 45' N., 80° 4' E.), about 10 miles from Pannā, is a shooting preserve with a small house known as Baharganj. The Ken which flows close by affords an ample water-supply, while the cover is excellent. At Siri village (24° 26' N., 80° 5' E.), a walled enclosure has been built through openings in which animals are driven.

The birds and fishes are similar to those in other parts of India, and do not require detailed treatment.

Climate and Rainfall.

The climate is somewhat subject to extremes, especially in the hilly parts. The average rainfall is 52 inches, a maximum of 73 having been recorded in 1894, and a minimum of 34 in 1899. Since 1901, six recording stations have been set up at Pannā, Pawai, Malahra, Aktohān, Dharampur, Birsingpur and Simaria.

1. By Lieut.-Col. D. Prain, I. M. S., *Botanical Survey of India*.

2. Blochmann—*Ain-i akbari*, II, 122-618. It should be noted that Pannā may be a misreading of the Persian for Bhata, the name for Baghelkhand.

## Section II.—History.

(Genealogical Tree.)

## Early history.

The early history of the tract in which the dominions of Mahārājā Chhatarsāl, of Pannā, lay have been dealt with already in the Gazetteers of the Orchhā and Rewah States. The history of Pannā is intimately connected with that of Orchhā in conjunction with which it should be read.

After the revolt and death of Mahārājā Jhujhār Singh in 1634<sup>1</sup>, the Orchhā State territories were incorporated into the Mughal Empire.

The Bundelās, however, irritated by the extinction of their principal chiefship, rose in all directions, and, aided by the rugged nature of the country, defied all attempts on the part of the Mughal authorities to reduce them to order. At this juncture, moreover, a leader appeared in Champat Rai, Bundelā.

## Champat Rai.

Champat Rai was a grandson of Udayāditya, or Udayājīt, the third son of Rājā Rudra Pratāp, the founder of Orchhā, who had, on his father's death, received Mahewā (24° 24' N., 80° 10' E.) in *jāgīr*. Udayāditya's son was Prem Chand, his son Kunwar Sen and his son and grandson Mān Singh and Bhagwant Rai. Bhagwant Rai's son, Kul Nandan, had four sons, of whom Champat Rai was the youngest. Gathering the discontented Rājputs round him, Champat Rai inaugurated a regular system of guerilla warfare, harrassing the Mughal officials and small parties of troops, driving cultivators from their fields and laying the country waste. In 1636, Khān Daurān Bahādur Nasrat Jang, who had, together with Abdullāh Khān Firoz Jang, suppressed the rebellion of Jhujhār Singh was sent to bring him to order, but does not appear to have effected anything, while Champat Rai gained several successes over the Imperial forces.<sup>2</sup>

He was then attacked by Abdullāh Khān Firoz Jang, but unsuccessfully. In 1639, Prithvi Rūjā,<sup>3</sup> younger son of Jhujhār Singh, whom the discontented Bundelās were desirous of putting on the Orchhā *gaddi*, was seized and imprisoned in Gwalior, Champat Rai and his son Sālivāhan managing, however, to escape from the field.

Bāki Khān was then sent to oppose him, but failed to capture Champat Rai, though he contrived to surprise and kill Sālivāhan. Chhatarsāl, the fourth and most famous of Champat

1. E. M. H., VII, 7, 19, 47.

2. E. M. H., VII, 61.

3. E. M. H., VII, 68.

Rai's sons, was born about this time on *Jeth Sudî* 3rd, Samvat 1707 (May 1650, A. D.).

Champat Rai now proceeded to raid with redoubled energy, sweeping over Nâlwan, devastating Bhilsa and Sironj and repulsing a feeble attempt on the part of the *sûbhûdar* of Ujjain to oppose him. At length his raids became so extended as practically to include all the country from the Chambal to the Tons. In desperation, Shâh Jahân at length sent for Pahâr Singh Bundelâ, a brother of Jhunjhûr Singh, and installed him on the *gaddi* at Orchha in the hope that he would be able to put an end to the disastrous tactics of Champat Rai.

After his installation, Pahâr Singh contrived to meet Champat Rai at Jatâra, and induced him to solicit terms from the Emperor. Shâh Jahân, fully alive to the usefulness of men of the type of Champat Rai, readily forgave him and employed him against the fort of Kumbhârgarh.

In recognition of his services on this occasion he was granted a portion of the Kunch *pargana*. He seems, however, not to have been satisfied, and becoming contumacious was deprived of his *jâzir* apparently through the instrumentality of Prince Dâra Shâh and it was made over to Pahâr Singh. It is also asserted that Pahâr Singh, to win the favour of the Emperor, tried to poison and then to murder Champat Rai. These attempts on his life decided Champat Rai to break off all relations with the head of the clan, with whom he had never been on very cordial terms, due principally to the fact that he had intended to obtain the Orchha chieftainship for himself.

When the sons of Shâh Jahân were struggling for the throne, Champat Rai, who bore Dâra a grudge for the loss of his *jâzir*, joined Aurangzeb and Murâd, and was instrumental in assisting the brothers to come within striking distance of Dâra. Bernier writes that Aurangzeb, finding Dâra strongly posted on the north bank of the Chambal, and being at a loss how to cross, "was intriguing with a Râja of the name of Champet (Champat Rai), whom he gained over by presents and promises, and through whose territory he obtained permission to march his army for the purpose of reaching speedily that part of the river where it was fordable. Champet even undertook to be his guide through the forests and over mountains, which perhaps were considered impracticable by Dâra, and Aurangzeb, leaving his tents standing to deceive his brother, had crossed with his troops to the other side of the

river almost as soon as the enemy was apprised of his departure.”<sup>1</sup>

Soon after crossing, the battle of Samugarh<sup>2</sup> was fought on May 28th, 1658, in which Dāra was utterly defeated. Champat Rai in return for his services was given high rank and considerable territory by Aurangzeb after his succession. Later on, however, he incurred the displeasure of the Emperor, who made over the territory he had granted him to Subhakaran Bundelā, the chief of Datā (1656-1683). Champat Rai, divested of his possession, thereupon renewed his old predatory habits, making his headquarters at Jairuch. Subhakaran attacked him and drove him to Dhamoni, where, however, he met with another Imperial force and was obliged to retreat. Champat Rai was now an old man in failing health. After an indecisive fight at Anghori, when Rājā Devī Singh, the Chanderī chief (1648-1661), held aloof from his kinsman, Champat Rai was obliged to retire through Orchhā on Jatāra, where Indraman, the chief of Suhra, was coming to his assistance. Indraman was, however, killed in a skirmish, and Champat Rai had to fall back alone on Suhra, where he left his son Chhatarsāl and continued his retreat. Fortune had turned her back upon Champat Rai, his bow which had served him in many a hard fight broke as he was stringing it, and all his supporters failed him in his need, even his confidential body servant refused to personate his master and to assist him to escape. When informed of this last defection, Champat Rai, believing his end was near, exclaimed, “whatever is pre-ordained must take place,” and resumed his flight.

Death of  
Champat Rai,  
A. D. 1662.

At about 14 miles from Suhra he was caught up by a detachment of the Mughal army under Nāmdār Khān and surrounded. After a desperate fight, in which his force was outnumbered, the old chief besought his Rājī who was with him, to save him from capture by putting an end to his life. Drawing her lord’s dagger she plunged it first into her husband’s breast and then into her own. Thus fighting to the last for the honour of his clan fell Champat Rai. Champat Rai had five sons, Sālivāhan, killed by Bāki Khān, in 1650; Angad Rai, Ratan Singh, Chhatarsāl and Gopāl. Chhatarsāl at this time (1662), about 13 years of age, was destined to raise the fame of the Bundelā clan higher than it had ever stood since the days of Bīr Singh Dev.

Chhatarsāl was still at Suhra when his parents died. (1662-1732). Seeing the desperate nature of his case, he determined to make

<sup>1</sup>. *Bernier's Travels* (Constable), 46.

<sup>2</sup>. E. M. H., VII, 229.

terms with the Emperor and raise the fortunes of his house by achieving success in the field. With this object he obtained admission to the army of the Deccan under Sawai Jai Singh, of Jaipur, and took part in several operations. His endeavours did not, however, in his opinion, meet with the return they merited, and disgusted by this apparent neglect, he resolved to follow in his father's footsteps and compel recognition by means of guerilla warfare. The great Marathā leader Shivaji was, at this time, beginning to cause trouble to the Mughal authorities, and Chhatarsal had formed the plan of joining him. Crossing the Bhima river he effected a junction with Shivaji, who encouraged him to fight against the Muhammadans, and presented him with his own sword. An officer attendant on Dalpat Rao, of Datia, who wrote an account of the events of the day, remarks that Shivaji "placed little confidence in the people of Hindustan," and, therefore, declined to employ Chhatarsal.<sup>1</sup>

Supported by his brothers, and Bir Baldeo of Aurangabad, Raja Dhurmangad of Chanderi, and other chiefs, Chhatarsal soon gathered his father's old followers round him, who were eager to see the ancient power of the clan restored. Marching into Bundelkhand and Malwa in 1671 he at once commenced operations, and captured a number of places, including Sironj, which he temporarily made his headquarters. As soon as his forces were sufficiently augmented to ensure success, he proceeded to raid Bundelkhand systematically. Hailed everywhere as the saviour of the Bundela cause, he was supported by all the local Thakurs, who flocked to join his standard. Such feeble attempts as the Mughal Governors made to resist him were easily repulsed, and in an incredibly short time he became master of all Bundelkhand, and seizing the Kalinjar fort, always the key to this tract from the earliest days, was in a position to consolidate his possessions.

Aurangzeb, busy with his conquests in the Deccan and troubled by revolts among the great Rajput chiefs and the rapidly increasing power of the Marathas, left the subjection of the turbulent Bundela free-booter to his deputies. There are, however, signs that Aurangzeb, impressed by the growth of his power, was at length about to take stringent measures for Chhatarsal's suppression when he died on March 4th, 1707. Chhatarsal, about this time, appears to have settled down to a more or less peaceful existence at Man-Mahewa near Chhatarpur, and to have engaged himself in the administration

---

1. Scott's *History of the Deccan*, II, 35.

of his large possessions, which now extended from the Betwā to the Tons and the Jumna almost to Jabalpur.

Aurangzeb's successor, Bahādur Shāh, recognising how difficult it would be to oust Chhatarsāl, tacitly acquiesced in the *status quo*, and even employed that chief in some minor expeditions. In 1729 Muhammad Khān Bangash proceeded against him with a force of 80,000 horse and 100 elephants.<sup>1</sup> Muhammad Khān Bangash Ghazansfar Jang was a native of Mau on the Ganges, in the Shamsābād *pargana*, of the Allahābād sūlah. A soldier of fortune, he had, during the decline of the central power, become virtually independent in Farrukhābād. He was in the habit of hiring himself out, to the highest bidder, and sided with various Bundelā chiefs at different times. He held high appointments under the Mughal Emperors, being at different times *sālahdār* of Allahābād and Mālwā (1732).

Unable to cope single-handed with this invasion, and driven from Jaitpur, Chhatarsāl, in 1730-31, called on Bājī Rao Peshwā for assistance. Tradition states that his letter begging for help ended with this verse—

*Jo bītī Gajarāj par so bītī ab āi,  
Bājī jāt Bundel kī rākho Bājī Rai.*

*What befell Gajarāj has come to pass now,  
The Bundelā's wager is being lost, save him, O Bājī Rao.*

Bājī Rao, fully alive to the political importance of such an alliance, at once responded, and came with a force of 100,000 horse. Muhammad Khān Bangash' was obliged to retreat into the Jaitpur fort which he had captured from Chhatarsāl. Here, after a siege of six months, in which a seer of flour sold for 80 rupees, he was reduced to desperate straits and was only saved from unconditional surrender by the arrival of a body of Rohillas brought there by his son Karīm Kunwar, who had contrived to communicate with them.

Chhatarsāl soon after this event divided up his possessions. In return for the services he had rendered, he made over a third share of his possessions to Bājī Rao.

His eldest son, Hirde Shāh, received territory worth 38 lakhs, including Paunā, Kālinjar and Shāhgarh; the second son, Jagat Rāj, receiving a *jagir* worth 33 lakhs, including

<sup>1</sup>. E. M. II., VIII, 46-18; S. M. I., 257-260. The later Mughals, J. A. B., LXV, 187.

Jaitpur, Ajaigarh and Charkhārī ; and the Peshwā, a *jāgīr* of 39 lakhs, including Saugor, Kalpī, Jhānsi and Sironj.

Chhatarsāl died at about 89 years of age in 1732 or 1733, different dates being given, the most generally accepted being *Bhādon, Sudī* 3rd Samvat 1788, or August 1732. His cenotaph stands at Mau village in Chhattarpur State, on the road to Nowgong. His descendants still hold besides Pannā, Ajai-garh, Charkhārī, Bijāwar, Jaso, Jignī, Lugāsī and Sarila.<sup>1</sup>

The eldest son Hirde Shāh succeeded to Pannā, which dates its existence as a separate chiefship from this time.

There is nothing of importance to relate during Hirde Shāh's time. In 1732, soon after his succession, he made an attack on Rewah, then ruled over by the minor chief Avdhūt Singh. He seized Rewah town which he continued to hold till about 1739. During this period he erected the *Bundelā-darwāza* at that place. Birsingpur, also a Rewah possession, was seized by him, and is still held by the Paunā chief.

He died on *Māgh Sudī* 9th, Samvat 1795 (January 1739), at 32 years of age, leaving eight legitimate sons and one illegitimate.

The eldest son Subhāg or Sabha Singh succeeded. He was a tyrannical ruler, in whose day the power of the State rapidly declined. He died on *Asārh Badī* 11th, 1809 (May 1752). His cenotaph stands at Senia village in Chhattarpur State. The diamond mines are said to have been first worked in his day. He was succeeded by his son Amān Singh.

Amān Singh had two brothers, Hindūpat and Khet Singh. Family dissensions arose soon after Amān Singh's succession, and in a fight with Hindūpat at Durga Talāo, near Chitrakūt, he was killed. He is always remembered by his lavish generosity alienating among other gifts, territory worth one lakh for the support of the Chitrakūt temples. Internal dissension was now the order of the day. Benī Hazūrī, on behalf of Hindūpat and Khemrāj Chaube, of Kālinjar, fought at Durga Talāo, the Chaube being victorious, while Khumān Singh, of Charkhārī, was surprised and killed at Maudha by Naunc Arjun Singh, general to Gūmān Singh, of Bānda.

Hindūpat then obtained the *gaddi* and succeeded his brother, proceeding to make his position more secure, by confining and soon after making away with his brother Khet Singh. In 1763-64 Shujā-ud-daula, Nawāb of Bengal, overran

Hirde Shāh  
(1732-39).

Subhāg  
Singh  
(1739-52).

Amān Singh  
(1752-58).

Hindūpat  
(1758-76).

1. Appendix A.

Bundelkhand and exacted tribute from Hindūpat and several other chiefs. Hindūpat made some difficulties about paying it in full. This led to a dispute which was settled by Kūsim Ali Khān becoming security for the amount.<sup>1</sup> Kūsim Ali was at this time urging the Nawāb to attack the English, but could not get his request attended to on account of the dispute with Hindūpat, and rightly considered that the quickest method was to become himself surety for the Bundelā chief's tribute. The battles of Pātna and Buxār followed soon after.

Hindūpat built the Jugal Kishor temple at Pannā, the fort of Mahārājganj ( $24^{\circ} 35' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 23' E.$ ) near Bijāwar, and a palace on the Kālinjar fort. He died in *Aghan Bādī* 9th, Samvat 1833 (November 1776).

Anirudh  
(1776-80).

Hindūpat was succeeded by his son Anirudh as a minor, the State being left to the care of Benī Hazūrī and the Brahman Khemrāj Chanbo. It was during this Chief's time that Colonel Goddard made his famous march.

In 1777, Hastings determined to support Raghunāth Rao's (Rāghoba's) claims to the Peshwāship. He, therefore, determined to send a force from Bengal to Bombay to his support, which would at the same time shew the Power of the British. Applications were made to Sindhia, our nominal ally, to assist the force, and although assistance was promised, secret instructions were given to the Bundelkhand chiefs to oppose the column. In May 1778, Colonel Leslie entered Bundelkhand where he was at once harrassed by the chiefs. Hastings, writing in August 1778<sup>2</sup> refers to Leslie's dilatory measures, and also notes the opposition to his march offered by Anirudh Singh, "the young Raja of Bundelkhand," who was attacked and defeated at Mau near Chhatarpur on July 10th. Leslie was supported, however, by Sarnat Singh, who was then intriguing to seize the *gaddi*. On October 3rd, 1778, Colonel Leslie died at Rājgarh in Chhatarpur State, and Colonel Goddard took up the command, and at once applied to Benī Hazūrī for a passport through his country which was refused. Goddard, however, continued his march easily defeating the bodies of troops which attempted to obstruct his advance.<sup>3</sup>

Interregnum  
(1780-85.)

The jealousies of Benī Hazūrī and Khemrāj, however, soon plunged the State into Civil War, in the midst of which Anirudh died, and his brothers Sarnat Singh and Dhokal Singh, as well as other members of the family, commenced a struggle for the *gaddi*.

1. E. M. II, VIII, 215; S. M. II, 523.

2. Cleig—*Life of Warren Hastings*, II, 191, ff. 217, ff.

3. G. D. II, Chap. IV; S. M., III, 113; *Cit. Rev.* 1856, Vol. XXVI, 557.



a Dane in the service of Himmat Bahādur, being the only important success gained by the Bundelis. The Bundelis now took to guerilla warfare, and the whole tract became a scene of plunder, violence and rapine. Strongholds of leaders of robber bands sprang into existence on every hill, no road was secure, no town safe from raids, while every man's hand was against his neighbour. The fields were left un-tilled, and famine stalked through the land. The district became known as the *garikland* from its numerous forts, and it required strong measures before order was restored. Ali Bahādur, who had now established himself at Bānda, proceeded to grant *sanads* to the local chiefs, including Dhokal Singh, though his armies actually occupied the whole of the Pannā State, the chief living with the Daowas and Chauhans of Kālinjar. In 1802, Ali Bahādur died when engaged in attacking Kālinjar, while the treaty of Barseīn (December 31st, 1802) placed the Peshwā's possessions in Bundelkhand under British rule. Shamsher Bahādur succeeded his father Ali Bahādur. Himmat Bahādur, knowing Shamsher's designs, made terms with the British through Colonel Meiselsbeck by which he obtained land worth 20 lakhs revenue. After some resistance, Shamsher Bahādur also came to terms.

Kishor  
Singh  
(1798-1831).

When the British supremacy was firmly established in 1803, Kishor Singh was nominally ruling, though actually an exile. He was re-instated and confirmed in his possessions by the British Government under *sanads* conferred in 1807 and 1811.<sup>1</sup> His oppressive methods of rule, however, necessitated British intervention on several occasions. In 1832, he made over the administration of his State to Kunwar Parlap Singh, of Chhatarpur, with the assent of Government. Two years later, however, it was found necessary to remove the Chief from the state, and his son Harbans Rai was put in as Regent.

Harbans Rai  
(1831-49).

Kishor Singh died in 1834, and Harbans Rai succeeded. Two of Kishor Singh's Rāns became *sati* on this occasion.

Nirpat Singh  
(1849-70).

Harbans Rai died childless in 1849, and was succeeded by his brother Nirpat Singh. Government, however, refused to recognize his succession until he had abolished *sati* in his territories. Nirpat Singh proved an excellent administrator. In 1857, he was most staunch in his support of the British Government, in spite of much opposition among his own people. He wrote constantly to Mr. Erskine, Commissioner of Jabalpur, offering assistance. When the rebel Rāni of the lapsed state of Jaitpur seized the Damoh District, Mr. Erskine asked the Pannā chief to drive her out. He at once sent his brother-in-law, Kunwar Shāmle-ju-dev, with the State

<sup>1</sup> Appendix B.



<b>Titles.</b>	The Pannā Chief enjoys the titles of His Highness and Mabārājā Mahendra, and receives a salute of 11 guns.
<b>Connections.</b>	The Chief has two brothers—Rāghuvendra Singh, who is studying with him at the Mayo College, Ajmer, and Bhāratendra Singh. Other members are Mahendra Mahārānī Barī Sarkār Būgia, the widow of Mahārājā Rudra Pratāp Singh, who enjoys a jāgīr of Rs. 7,000 a year; Mahendra Mahārānī, of Baraich, also a widow of Rudra Pratāp, who enjoys a similar jāgīr, two Rao Rānis, the widows of Rao Rājā Khumān Singh, of whom one is the Chief's mother, and Rajju Rājā, His Highness's sister of three years old.
	<b>Section III.—Population.</b> <b>(TABLES III TO VI.)</b>
<b>Enumerations, Variation and Density.</b>	Three enumerations have taken place giving in 1881, 227,306; 1891, 239,333; 1901, 192,986. A decrease of 19 per cent. thus took place between 1891 and 1901. The density is only 81 persons to the square mile.
<b>Towns and Villages.</b>	Of 1,009 towns and villages in the State, 935 have a population of under 500; 52 of between 500 and 1,000; 18 of between 1,000 and 2,000; 3 of between 2,000 and 5,000; and 1 (the chief town) of over 5,000.
<b>Vital Statistics (Table V).</b>	The collection of these was only instituted lately. The returns show 52 births and 17 deaths per millo on the total population.
<b>Sex.</b>	The sex figures showed 97,091 males and 95,895 females, or 98 women to 100 men.
<b>Religions.</b>	Classified by religions, there were 173,735, or 90 per cent., Hindus; 5,021, or 3 per cent., Musalmāns; 12,249, or 6 per cent., Animists; 1,881 Jains, 82 Sikhs and 18 Christians.
<b>Language and Literacy.</b>	The prevailing form of speech is Bundelkhandi and its cognate dialects. Of the whole population, 2,806 persons, or 14 per cent., were literate.
<b>Castes.</b>	The predominating castes were Brāhmans 12 per cent., Chamārs 11 per cent., Lodhīs 8 per cent., Ahīrs and Kurnīs 7 per cent., Kāchhīs 5 per cent., and Rājpūts 4 per cent.
<b>Occupations.</b>	Agricultural and pastoral occupations were followed by 118,151 persons, or 61 per cent. of the population.
<b>SOCIAL CHARAC- TERISTICS. Dress.</b>	Little distinction is to be noticed between local Muhammādans and Hindus, the former assimilating their dress, and even their customs, to those adopted by the latter. The angarkha, kurta and sāfa are generally worn.
<b>Food.</b>	Flesh is eaten by none of the higher castes, and liquor is drunk by few. The poorer classes live mainly on dhunian,



CHAPTER II.  
ECONOMIC.  
(TABLES VII-XV, XXIX AND XXX.)  
Section I.—Agriculture.

General conditions. Generally speaking, the soil of the State is of only moderate fertility.

In the Haveli tract comprising the *tahsils* of Pawai, Simaria, Singhpur and Birsingpur, and a part of Pannā khōs the best soils are found and *rabi* crops are regularly grown without irrigation.

Soils. Soils are classed by the agriculturist by their composition, crop-bearing power and position. A large number of classes are recognised by cultivators, the more important being *mār*, *kābar*, *parua*, *pili*, *bhārī*, *lāl*, *bhatwa*, *pathrīlī*, *retlī* and *kankrīlī*, placed according to constitution and appearance.

The classes adopted in the Settlement now in progress under a British Settlement Officer are *mār* or *mund*, *kābar*, *parua* and *rānkhar* or *rānkar*, which are differentiated into superior and inferior. According to position also they are classed as *geunra* (near village sites) and *hār* (outlying).

*Mār* is a black loamy soil known popularly as "black cotton."

It is the product of the decomposition of Deccan Trap. South of the northern Vindhyan scarp it is called *mund*. The best varieties of it are found in the Dharampur and Aktohān *tahsils* in the north, and Baxwāho in the south. The Haveli *mund* is naturally lighter but is very fertile when embanked. It is characterised by its power of bearing *rabi* crops continuously without irrigation, its usual *kharif* crop is *jowār*.

*Kābar* is a soil of similar composition and qualities, but is more of a clay than a loam and is free from *kankar* nodules, which invariably accompany *mār*.

*Parua* is a sandy loam, which is often very fertile and of alluvial origin. It is typically found in Dharampur and Aktohān, and throughout the Haveli. It is the soil which responds most to irrigation.

*Rānkhar* is the refuse soil composed of gravels and rocky detritus, and is suited only to the growth of small millets.

In addition to these natural soils *lachhār* or the alluvium on river banks which is often very rich near the Ken, Biarma

and Sonār; *tari* or embanked depressions through which a stream runs and always furnishes a *rabi* seed bed and *bandhia* or rice terraces of the hilly tracts, have also been adopted as soil classes.

Two seasons are followed, the *kharīf* or *siārī* and the *rabi* or *unhārī*; *kodon*, *jowār*, *bājra*, maize, etc., being sown in the former, which lasts from May to October; and wheat, gram and linseed in the latter, which lasts from October to March.

The normal area cultivated amounts to about 298,000 acres, or 19 per cent. of the total area of the State.

Fields are broken with the plough just before the rains so as to allow the moisture to penetrate and also air the ground. As soon as rain falls the soil is finally ploughed and sown. Small seed is sown broadcast and large seed through a drill. The ground to be used in the *rabi* is ploughed several times till well saturated.

The *dafasli* or double-cropped area is mostly confined to the tracts which are irrigated, namely, to the gneissic plateau, north of the first Vindhyan scarp. The embanked terraces of *parganas* Raipura and Shāhnagar in the extreme south often bear both rice and wheat or barley, and a small percentage of *geunra* lands are also double-cropped without irrigation. Out of a total cultivated area of 298,000 acres, 26,600 acres are double-cropped according to the Settlement records.

Mixed sowings are common. In *pili* and *bhūrī* soils, *jowār* is sown together with *mūng*, *kodon*, *urad* or *kukti*; in black and red soil, barley is sown with *batla*.

Rotation of crops varies with the class of soil. In the poorest *parua*, and *rānkhar*, *til* is grown for the first year followed by *kodon* and *kukti*. It generally falls fallow after the third year. In the good *parua* of Aktohān and Dharampur *til* is succeeded by *jowār*, this by gram and gram by cotton, and *arhar* and the succession is kept up over a period of years. In the heavier soils of *mār* and *kābar* wheat, or wheat mixed with gram and linseed may be grown without intermission, though *jowār* may take the place of *rabi* when the seasons are not favourable to winter sowings or where the tenants are impoverished. The cultivators well understand the value of recuperating their wheat or *jowār*-bearing lands, by an occasional leguminous crop, like gram or *mūng*, by means of which the nitrogen is kept within the soil.

Seasons.

Cultivated area and Variation.  
Agricultural practice.

Dafasli.

Mixed sowings.

Rotation.

- Manure.** Manuring is very little practised. In the case of special crops, such as poppy and sugarcane, it is essential to manure the soil, but in other cases is only employed occasionally. The manure used consists ordinarily of village-sweepings.
- Pests.** Rats, locusts and blight (*gerua*) are the most common pests from which the crops suffer.
- Implements.** The most important implements are the *har* or plough, *patela* or clod-breaker, *phitora* or spade and *khurpa* or hoe.
- Crops : Area sown.** The area under *kharif* crops in a normal year is about 172,500 acres, and at the *rabi* 120,800 acres. The chief crops in the former case are *kodon* (57,900), rice (30,900), *jowar* (20,500), oil-seeds (20,100), *kukki* (11,500), *samān* (6,300), *makka* or maize (4,100), pulses (3,900), and cotton (1,700); and in the *rabi*, wheat (35,200), gram (32,400) and *jau* or barley (16,500).
- Crops at each harvest.** The main food crops at the *kharif* are *makka* or maize (*Zea mays*), *jundi* or *jowar* (*Sorghum vulgare*), *warda* (*Phaseolus radiatus*), *rāchar* or *arkar* (*Cajanus indicus*), *māng* (*Phaseolus mungo*), *bājra* (*Pennisetaria spicata*), *kodon* (*Panicum scrobiculatum*), *kulkī* (*P. miliare*), *kākun* (*Setaria italica*) and *dhān* or rice (*Oryza sativa*); at the *rabi* they are wheat or *gehūn* (*Triticum aestivum*), gram or *chana* (*Cicer arietinum*), *masūr* (*Ervena lens*), and barley or *jau* (*Hordeum vulgare*).
- Oil-seeds.** *Tillī* (*Sesamum indicum*), *arsī* or linseed (*Linum usitatissimum*) and *sarson* (*Brassica campestris*).
- Fibres.** Cotton (*Gossypium indicum*) is sown in some quantity, and a little *amāri* (*Hibiscus cannabinus*) and *san* (*Crotalaria juncea*).
- Poppy and drugs.** A little poppy is sown in Shahnagar and Pawai.
- Garden produce.** In gardens vegetables and fruit are cultivated, the commonest of the former being onions, garlic, ginger, brinjal (*Solanum melogena*), carrots, radishes, melons and many varieties of gourd. The principal fruit trees are custard-apple, mango, guava, pomegranate, orange, pumelos and plantains.
- Progress.** No new implements or seeds have been introduced.
- Irrigation.** Irrigation is almost entirely confined to the Guara *pargana* of the Malahra *tahsil* with a little in Aktohān. In these two tracts 13,000 or 77 per cent. of the total cultivated area is shown in the Settlement records as protected by irrigation. For the rest of the State the percentage is only 23.

The chief source of irrigation is wells and the principal mechanism for raising water is the Persian wheel. Occasionally the *tarsa* or leather bag worked by oxen on an inclined plane over a pulley is employed when the water is more than fifteen feet below the surface. In the Haveli water is raised from wells by the *dhenkli* or weighted lever and a small earthen *ghara*. There are a few villages only where irrigation is practised from lakes. These are larger and most numerous on the gneissic plateau, and date from Chandel times or even prior to that. The water is conveyed from them to the fields by masonry sluices communicating with small channels, but when the level of the water sinks it is laboriously raised in canoes (*denri*) or basket lifts (*dūl*), and occasionally by Persian wheels constructed on the *bandh*. Streams are sometimes held up by temporary dams, but the amount of irrigation so effected is inconsiderable. Field embankments in black soil take the place of irrigation in the Haveli tract, and very great ingenuity is displayed by the people in their construction. By their means the fields are flooded in the rains and the water is drawn off in time to sow wheat.

The total area normally under irrigation is 17,000 acres. Figures are not available for more than one year.

No special breed of cattle is met with in the State, but most cultivators rear cows, buffaloes, goats and sheep. Elephants are bred to a small extent by the Dārbar.

Ample pasture lands exist, and no difficulty is ever experienced in feeding cattle, except in a year of absolute famine.

No special cattle fairs are held, but the sale of cattle goes on at the ordinary markets.

The population is almost entirely agricultural or subsists by agriculture. The best cultivators are Lothis, Kurmis, Kachhis and Telis.

*Takkāci* advances are made freely whenever they are required by the people. These advances are given for the purchase of cattle and seed and food grain. Interest is charged at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on these loans which are realised usually at the harvest, but in special cases by instalments spread over a year or two.

#### Section II.—Wages and Prices.

#### (TABLES XIII AND XIV.)

Wages for agricultural operations are paid in kind as a rule. For cutting *Lodon*, rice, *kutki*, etc., from 2 to 3 seers

Mechanism.

Cattle.

Pasture.

Cattle fairs.

Agricultural population.

Takkāci.

Wages and Prices.

of grain are given daily to each man, and for reaping wheat two *pulis*, or bundles, each containing 2 to 3 seers of corn.

No material alteration has taken place in local wage rates.

Prices have risen somewhat since the opening of roads, but the State is still too isolated to be very seriously affected by improvements in outside conditions of trade.

**Material condition.** Mal-administration and bad years have caused a large area to go out of cultivation, while much is of necessity left fallow owing to the small population per square mile. Encouragement is now being given by granting easy terms to all who break new land, and conditions are improving. These indifferent years included two, 1897 and 1900, of actual famine.

### Section III.—Forests.

#### (TABLE IX.)

**Area.** Forests of varying density occur throughout the State, except in the alluvial tract round Pawai and Simaria called the Haveli. The actual area under forest is about 1,800 square miles or 75 per cent. of the total.

**Trees.** Botanically the forests are of the Central Indian type. The most valuable trees are teak (*Tectona grandis*) occurring gregariously near the beds of rivers and in the smaller valleys, sporadically on the slopes of the hills immediately above and occasionally on the plateaus; it is generally of poor quality, sound trees of over two feet in girth being rare. Bamboo (*Dendrocalamus strictus*), which at present has very much deteriorated owing to the reckless cutting of young shoots in the past, *tendū* (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), *haldū* (*Adina cordifolia*), *kaim* (*Stephegyne parvifolia*), *dhaūwa* (*Anogeissus latifolia*), *scjhā* (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*), *sandan* (*Ougeinia dalbergioides*), *sāj* (*Terminalia tomentosa*) and *khair* (*Acacia catechu*), being other important species. *Mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*) is very common in cultivated land on moister soils.

The chief demand for wood in the past has been for the now moribund iron smelting industry, for lime burning and for export to the Bānda District. Besides affording a supply of wood for agricultural implements and building to villages adjacent to them the forests are of economic value in providing labour for the poorer classes and many edible plants and roots useful in famine time.

**Control.** A trained forest officer, lent by Government, has now examined and reported on the forests and their administration has been placed under a trained official. This is the first attempt at systematic forestry although certain trees, called the *satkatha*,

viz., teak, *shisham*, mango, *mahuā*, *sāj*, *chhiula*, *achār*, have always been protected.

The forest revenue now about Rs. 30,000 a year will rapidly increase under proper management.

#### Section IV.—Mines and Minerals.

##### (TABLE XII.)

The minerals found are diamonds, iron-ore, building stone and limestone (*see "Geology"*).

The diamonds occur in the Vindhyan conglomerates mixed with pebbles from the Bundelkhand gneiss and Lower Vindhyan series. The workers believe that a prevalence of the green vitreous quartzite pebbles, called *khansia*, which are derived from the Vindhyan rocks, are an indication of the presence of diamonds.

In the neighbourhood of Pannā the conglomerate containing these stones occurs, resting directly on the upper surface of the Kaimur sandstone; below are the Rewah shales, the conglomerate being surrounded by an arenaceous ground-mass locally called *mudda*.

Further east from Pannā round Itwa (24° 42' N., 80° 30' E.), the conglomerate is separated from the Kaimurs by 20 to 25 feet of shale and limestone.

The presence of these two separate diamantiferous layers disposes of Medlicot's difficulty in determining the stratigraphical position of the diamond-bearing stratum.

Workings are of three types, which may be classed as "direct workings," "shallow workings" and "alluvial workings."

"Direct workings" are always employed when the conglomerate is being extracted *in situ*; cylindrical pits are sunk from 30 to 40 feet deep, and 18 to 35 feet wide. The overlying strata above the *mudda* matrix is removed by spades and picks, but the *mudda* itself, which is a hard sandstone matrix, cannot be thus extracted. To remove the *mudda* fires are lighted upon it, which cause it to split, and it is then removed in large horizontal slabs. These slabs are collected for future treatment.

When all the *mudda* has been removed from the floor, galleries are driven into the sides of the pit and the matrix similarly extracted.

The mines when shallow are entered by steps, but as they become deeper by means of an inclined plane. Excavation is usually carried out from March till the rains break ; if operations

DIAMONDS.

Workings.

are commenced earlier, the pits have to be emptied of water by means of a Persian wheel.

The *mudda* thus extracted is then broken up, and the shaly conglomerate associated with it, known as *kakru*, is lixiviated in water. This washing of the *kakru* is done in shallow pits near the mouth of the mine. A man churns up the matrix in the water with his feet. The cleaned matrix is then removed and searched by hand for stones.

In the case of the *mudda*, which is much harder than the *kakru*, the mass has to be broken into pieces with a hammer before being washed. In spite of this rough treatment the stones are seldom damaged.

In the "shallow workings" the process is similar, but no heating of the surface of the *mudda* is needed, while in alluvial workings the diamantiferous gravel is simply lifted out in baskets.

#### Disposal.

When found the diamonds are sold by auction at the beginning of each month. If a stone is less than 6 *rattis* in weight the owner gets three-fourths, and the State one-fourth of the value. All stones of 6 *rattis* and over are State property, the finder getting  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the value.

From a crystallographic point of view the Pannā diamonds are modifications of the hexakis-octahedron. The crystals are ordinarily remarkably perfect, the surface beautifully smooth and the colour a brilliant white seldom seen in South Africa in specimens, or of a blue-grey colour never seen in them. An exquisite pale seagreen stone, called *bānspati*, or bamboo leaf, is found, which, however, becomes white when cut; they are rare. Of 235 stones examined, 71 per cent. were pure white. The average weight is 9·63 *rattis*, or 0·59 carat.

A large number of stones suffer from "spots" or opaque black, inclusions, which make them unfit for the European market.<sup>1</sup>

#### Histroy.

The Pannā diamond mines have been well-known since the early years of the 18th century. It appears that they were first worked in the time of Rājā Sabha Singh (1739-52), who was shown their whereabouts by Prān Nāth. There can be little doubt, however, that they were in existence long before this, though perhaps not very systematically worked, and possibly during the confusion which arose at the death of Aurangzeb had been neglected.

The earliest reference to them is by Abul Fazl who mentions that diamonds were obtained from a place 20 *kos*

---

1. Memoirs, *Geological Survey of India*, II, 1·95; *ibid.* VII, Pt. I. E. Vredenburg—*Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India*, XXXIII, 262.

from Kālinjar, and that Rājā Kirat Singh of that place had six stones of great value, which must have come from this field.

Tieffenthaler, who visited Pannā in about 1765, notes that the stones found were not as good as those from Orissa (?) and Rohilkhand (Ramulketo). It is asserted that the Pannā State in 1750 derived as much as 4 lakhs a year from this source, the present income, however, is only about Rs. 6,000.

De Boigne, Sindha's French General, who was on service in this region in 1781, says no stones, exceeding Rs. 800 in value, were found there. Hamilton, however, writing in 1813, says that the Rājā was credited with the possession of one worth Rs. 50,000. Tavernier, it may be noted, never mentions the mines at all.<sup>1</sup>

Iron was formerly extensively worked from ores found in the Bir-singpur, Ghora and Baxwāho *parganas*, but competition with imported metal has almost entirely killed the industry.

Building stone is found in many places, and is still quarried to some extent.

Iron,

Building  
stone.

#### Section V.—Arts and Manufactures.

(TABLE XI.)

No arts or manufactures of importance exist. The usual coarse cloth and country blankets are made in certain villages, and a little opium in Shāhnagar and Pawai, while oil is extracted from the *makhā*, *chironji* (fruit of the *Bucanania latifolia*) and *sesamum*.

#### Section VI.—Commerce and Trade.

The isolation of the State from railways has militated against the development of trade.

A certain amount of grain is exported, while an income is derived from traffic in diamonds. The chief exports are grain, timber, diamonds and building stone, and the imports piece-goods, sugar, *gur*, salt, kero-sine oil and spices.

In all villages of any size weekly markets are held, where traders purchase from the cultivators, and carry their goods to the trade centres.

The principal market towns are Pannā, Bir-singpur, Raipura, Malahira, Simaria, Pawai, Kakrehti, Singhpur, Harde, Durguan, Mahārājganj, Gaura, Sadwa, Baxwāho, Amānganj, Khonpa, Shāhnagar, Bīāni, Mahodra and Sanvarī.

Exports and  
Imports.

Markets.

<sup>1</sup> *Teast, i*, 425; Hamilton—*Descriptive of Hindostan (1820)*, I, 326.

Mechanism  
of trade.

The Jains deal mostly in cloth, and Hindu Baniās in grain and money-lending.

The mediums of exchange are the British rupee and *kundū*, currency notes being little used.

Routes.

Trade passes along the metalled road to Nowgong, and on to the Harpalpur station on the Jhansi-Mānikpur Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to Bānda and also westwards to Satna. Carriage is effected through the agency of the Banjāras.

#### Section VII.—Means of Communication.

##### (TABLE XV.)

(Roads  
(Table XV)).

No railway passes through the State. A metalled road runs eastwards to Nowgong Cantonment (57 miles), and westwards to Satna (44 miles). This is a Government road. A Tonga Dāk service now runs between Satna and Pannā.

Post and  
Telegraph  
(Table  
XXIX).

There was only one Imperial Post Office at Pannā, but five more at Birsingpur, Raipura, Pawai, Malahra and Shāhnagar have been opened since 1902. The nearest Telegraph Office is at Satna. Local State postal arrangements have been made, and communication between *tahsīls*.

#### Section VIII.—Famines.

In 1896-97 a severe famine attacked the State, and every endeavour was made to combat it by opening relief works and granting charitable aid.

---

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

#### Section I.—Administration.

(TABLES XVI TO XXVII.)

The State is at present under administration owing to the minority. When the Chief exercises powers he has absolute and final control in all general questions connected with the administration, and is the final authority of appeal in civil suits. In criminal cases his powers are limited to those usually granted to *sanad* chiefs. A *dūcān* assists the Chief, and acts as principal executive officer.

In 1901, pending the inquiry into the poisoning case in which Mahārājū Mūdho Singh was implicated, the State was placed under the Political Agent, and in 1902, on the deposition of the Chief, formally put under administration.

The administration is vested in a *dūcān* who is assisted by a consultative council of six members, *dūcān* and council acting under the direction of the Political Agent.

The *dūcān* is the principal executive officer, and is generally responsible for the working of the different departments. He also exercises judicial powers.

Hindi and Urdu are the court languages ; the former is used in all revenue papers and the latter in courts. An English department is attached to the head office as also to the account office.

The State is now divided into seven *tahsils* and *sub-tahsils*, four of the former and three of the latter. A summary of these is given below :—

General.

Official Language.

Administrative Divisions.

No.	Name.	Area in square miles.	Villages.	Revenue.
1	Pannā	619	195	69,681
2	Pawai	570	274	1,16,688
3	Mahodra	436	181	82,074
4	Malahra	487	200	90,129
5	Birsingpur	135	109	24,487
6	Dharampur	93	34	38,692
7	Aktohān	31	16	18,434
TOTAL ...		2,371	1,009	4,40,185

Each *tahsil* is in charge of a *tahsildār* who is the revenue officer of the charge, and either a 2nd or 3rd class magistrate. As civil judge, he can try suits not exceeding Rs. 50 in value.

Staff.

The *tahsildār* is assisted by officials of the police and public works, and the usual office staff.

### Section II.—Legislation and Justice.

#### (TABLES XVI AND XVII.)

##### Legislation.

There is no special legislative body in the State. The British Codes are followed in both civil and criminal courts, so far as is practicable with due regard to local custom and usage.

##### Courts. Civil.

The lowest courts are those of the *tahsildārs* and *nāib-tahsildārs*, who are empowered to hear suits of which the subject matter does not exceed Rs. 50 in value. The courts next in order are those of the Subordinate Judge, who is empowered to hear suits not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in value.

The *dīwān* is District Judge, the Political Agent hearing appeals against his decisions. The Agent to the Governor-General is High Court.

##### Criminal.

The *tahsildārs* are magistrates of the 2nd and *nāib-tahsildārs* of the 3rd class. A 1st class magistrate deals with cases in Panna town. The *dīwān* is District Magistrate. Appeals from the *tahsildārs* and *nāib-tahsildārs* lie to the District Magistrate and against the 1st class and District Magistrate to the Political Agent as Sessions Court. The Agent to the Governor-General in Central India is High Court.

### Section III.—Finance.

#### (TABLES XVIII AND XIX.)

##### System.

All accounts are now kept on the system followed in British India; a regular budget, with its major and minor headings, being drawn up. No deviation is allowed from the sums thus allotted without special sanction.

The accounts are sent in by the *tahsildārs* to the headquarters, where they are checked and audited.

##### Sources of Revenue and Expenditure.

The normal revenue of the State is 4·7 lakhs the principal sources being land revenue and cesses 3·1 lakhs, tribute from *jāgīrdārs* Rs. 58,000, forests Rs. 28,000, excise Rs. 9,000, judicial Rs. 7,000, while miscellaneous sums amount to Rs. 27,000.

The total expenditure is about 4 lakhs. The main heads of expenditure are collection of land revenue 1·5 lakh, allowances to Chief's relations and household expenses Rs. 68,000, public works Rs. 63,000, pensions Rs. 24,000, army Rs. 23,000, general administration Rs. 21,000, forests Rs. 19,000, jail Rs. 10,000, education and medical Rs. 9,000 each, and law and justice Rs. 2,000.

The State appears to have had a coinage of its own during the time of Rājā Kishor Singh known as the *Kishorī rupee*. Until 1832 this coin and various other local issues were current, the British rupee was then made the only legal tender.

Coinage.

#### Section IV.—Land Revenue

A regular survey has been made (1906) and the Settlement is being carried out by an officer lent by the British Government for the purpose, and will be completed before long, the land being assessed more or less on the lines obtaining in British India.

System.

Prior to the Settlement there were no maps except in *tahsils* of Dharampur, Aktohān and Baxwāho, the revenue was not based on any area statistics. In these parts there was a *bigha* which is generally stated to be  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an English acre, but it varied greatly and was never reduced to a uniform standard. A few antiquated maps of villages may be found but they were never officially referred to. Rents were divided into *lump rent* leases, and secondly *kankuti* or appraisalment. The former applied to old established fertile lands, the value of which was well-known, and they were based either on the empirical results of appraisements or on a calculation of the value of the seed sown in certain soils. This was known as the *maniyāwan*, a *māni* of wheat seed, representing roughly about 7 maunds or 560 lbs. in the Haveli. Elsewhere the measures of capacity are a *khānri* which is about 100 lbs. But names and quantities vary throughout the State. In appraisalment the standing crop is valued by the *pātīcārī* and headman assisted by a committee and after allowing a quarter to the cultivator for his expenses, the State took the value at current rates of a share in the remainder which varied from a  $\frac{1}{4}$  to a  $\frac{1}{6}$ . This system was open to many abuses, and cash rents have now been substituted throughout based on a correctly ascertained average, and proportioned to soil rates. Prior to Settlement the *khālsā* villages were either administered direct by the Darbār (*khām tahsīl*) or were leased to *lambardārs* for a term. *Lambardārī* has been abolished and when the Settlement is introduced all the villages will be administered by *khām tahsīl*.

Tenures fall broadly into two classes, *khāleā* or land directly managed by the Darbār, and alienated land held by *jāgīrdārs*, *maindārs*, *pādārkhis* and others. *Jāgīrdārs* and *maindārs* were, as a rule, bound to render feudal service to the Chief. This has now been commuted to a money payment, estimated more or less on the nominal value of the contingent or *zābta*, which they were expected to furnish, while the payments due from the *maindārs* and others have been adjusted to their incomes. The *pādārkhis* are expected to attend religious ceremonials. The

Tenures.

Darbār pays the Government of India Rs. 9,955 annually as *istimrāri* on the Aktohūn *tahsīl*, including Shivrājpur.

At the Settlement occupancy rights have been recognised in both the *khālsā* and *maimūrī* and other alienated villages. The rights granted include the right of inheritance but not of transfer, and occupancy rents may not be enhanced during the term of Settlement.

#### Section V.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

##### Excise.

No separate Excise department exists, this work being under the Revenue department. The State has now been divided into circles, and the manufacture of *gānja*, *bhang* and opium has been prohibited. These drugs are imported and sold at 89 retail shops by a licensed contractor.

##### Liquor.

The liquor drunk is that distilled from the flowers of the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*). The liquor contract is auctioned yearly. There are now 230 retail shops for the sale of liquor. Two strengths are made, one selling at 4 annas and the other at 2 annas a bottle.

##### Customs.

No specific returns exist except for the octroi levied in Pannā town, which brings in about Rs. 4,000 a year, the gross value of articles imported being about 3 lakhs, wheat heading the list with Rs. 80,000, cloths Rs. 50,000, gram Rs. 30,000 and rice Rs. 20,000.

##### Mines.

The diamond mines bring in about Rs. 6,000 yearly. They are worked by the Darbār. Only those at Itwa and Pannā are at present being worked.

##### Stamps.

The sale of judicial stamps produces about Rs. 4,000 a year. Private vendors are now licensed to sell stamps.

#### Section VI.—Public Works.

This department was originated by Mahārājā Rudra Pratāp Singh, who retained the services of Mr. Manly, to manage the department in succession to his father who had been engaged by Mahārājā Nirpat Singh.

The expenditure has been about Rs. 8,000 a year. Under the new scheme just introduced it will be greatly increased.

#### Section VII.—Army.

##### (TABLE XXV.)

Before the State came under supervision the army numbered 364 regulars, 36 band and 240 irregulars, costing Rs. 44,000 a year. This unnecessarily large force has now been reduced to 14 artillery, 31 cavalry, 186 infantry and 8 *lālpitara* or armourers costing Rs. 24,000 a year. The State possesses 19 serviceable guns. The troops guard the palace, workshops, jail, etc.



## CHAPTER IV. ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS AND GAZETTEER.

Until 1902 the State had eleven *tahsils*—Pannā, Singhpur, Pawai, Shāhnagar, Simaria, Raipura, Baxwāho, Malahra, Dharampur, Aktohān and Birsingpur. These have now been combined to form seven *tahsils* of Pannā, Pawai, Mahodra (Simaria and Raipura), Malahra, Dharampur, Aktohān and Birsingpur.

**Aktohān Tahsil.**—This *tahsil* is situated to the north of Nowgong Cantonment, isolated from the rest of the State. It has an area of 31 square miles, distributed over five small pieces of territory. The name is said to be derived from the fact that it was originally composed of eight villages.

It is bounded on all sides by the Chhatarpur State. About 1830 this place was the scene of a serious disturbance between Rājā Pratāp Singh, of Chhatarpur, and one of his Rānis, known as the Sazli Rāni, who had fled to Aktohān. The Rājā incited the local Parihar Rājputs to attack her. Finding that the day was against her, the Rāni set fire to the magazine, and as the local historian remarks, “all was at an end.” The Government of India, however, stepped in, and it was then found that the Pannā State, though claiming ownership, had practically never administered the tract at all.

The Darbār now pay a quit rent of Rs. 9,955 to the British Government for this *tahsil*.

Population was, in 1901, 5,435 persons; males 2,790, females 2,639; of whom 5,333, or 98 per cent., were Hindus. The *tahsil* comprises 16 villages, of which 5 are *khālsā*, 5 *lambardāri* and 6 *jāgīr*. A *nāib-tahsildār* is in charge. The revenue amounts to about Rs. 18,000.

**Birsingpur Tahsil.**—An isolated *tahsil*, made up of six small tracts, with a total area of 135 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Bānda District, and on other sides by the Sohāwal and Kothī States.

This *tahsil* belonged originally to the Baghelas of Rewah, the village of Birsingpur having been founded in the 15th century by Mahārājā Bir Singh, of Rewah. It fell to Hirde Shāh in about 1735. In 1747, a dispute arose between the Sohāwal and Pannā States regarding proprietorship, which was settled by a division of territory.

Population was, in 1901, 12,534 persons ; males 6,194, females 6,340 ; of whom 10,410, or 83 per cent., were Hindus, and 1,779, or 14 per cent., Animists chiefly.

The *tahsil* contains 109 villages, of which 47 are *khālsā*, 9 *lambardāri* and 53 *jāgīr*. The revenue amounts to about Rs. 24,480. A *nāib-tahsildār* is in charge.

**Dharampur Tahsil.**—This *tahsil* lies north of Pannā, having an area of 93 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Ajaigarh and the Bānda District, on the south by Ajaigarh and the Pannā *tahsil*, on the east by Ajaigarh and the Bānda District, and on the west by Ajaigarh and Charkhāri.

Population was, in 1901, 11,475 persons ; males 5,857, females 5,618 ; of whom 10,945 or 95 per cent., were Hindus.

The *tahsil* comprises 34 villages, 12 *khālsā*, 6 *lambardāri* and 16 *jāgīr*, with a revenue of about Rs. 38,700. A *nāib-tahsildār* is in charge.

**Mahodra Tahsil.**—This *tahsil* is situated in the south-west of the main block of territory, being bounded on the north by the Pawai *tahsil*, on the south by the Jabalpur and Damoh Districts, on the east by the Pawai *tahsil* and Bijāwar, and on the west by Damoh. It has an area of 436 square miles, the soil is fertile in the old Simaria *pargana* lying in the Haveli valley. The Ken, Biarma and several small streams flow through it.

Population was, in 1901, 32,152 ; males 16,097, females 16,055 : of whom 28,846, or 90 per cent., were Hindus, and 2,282, or 7 per cent., Animists, chiefly Gonds.

The *tahsil* comprises 181 villages, of which 55 are *khālsā*, 51 *lambardāri* and 75 *jāgīr*, etc.

The *tahsildār* in charge of the *tahsil* lives at Mahodra. The revenues are about Rs. 82,000.

**Malahra Tahsil.**—An isolated *tahsil*, lying to the south-west of Pannā. It has an area of 487 square miles, and is bounded on the north by Charkhāri, on the south by the Saugor and Damoh Districts, on the east by Bijāwar, and on the west by Bijāwar and Saugor.

The country is hilly, and the soil not very fertile. The Dhasān, Bila and Katnī rivers traverse it.

Population was, in 1901, 39,758; males 20,460, females 19,298; of whom 37,758, or 94 per cent., were Hindus.

The *tahsil* contains 200 villages, of which 127 are *khālsā*, 15 *lambardāri* and 58 *jāgīr*, etc. The *tahsildār* in charge has his headquarters at Malahra. The revenues amount to about Rs. 90,000.

**Pannā Tahsil.**—The home *tahsil* lies round the chief town. It has an area of 619 square miles, and is bounded on the north by Ajaigarh and Charkhārī, on the south by Ajaigarh, Bijāwar and the Pawai *tahsil*, on the east by Charkhārī and Ajaigarh, and on the west by the Ken river, which separates it from Chhattarpur.

The *tahsil* lies mainly in the Pannā range, most of the diamond mines being situated within it.

The soil is not of great fertility. The Ken and Mirahasan rivers traverse it.

Population was, in 1901, 40,006 ; males 20,088, females 19,918 ; of whom 34,410, or 86 per cent., were Hindus, 458 Jains, 2,521 Musalmāns, 18 Christians, 82 Sikhs and 2,518 Animists.

The *tahsil* contains 195 villages, of which 65 are *khālsā*, 34 *lambardārī* and 96 alienated in *jāgīrs*, etc. The *tahsildār* is in charge of a *tahsildār* whose headquarters are at Pannā. The revenues amount to Rs. 69,680.

**Pawai Tahsil.**—This *tahsil* lies in the south-east of the State, and has an area of 570 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Ajaigarh, on the east by Maihar, on the south by the Jabalpur District, and on the west by the Mahodra *tahsil*.

The soil in the eastern (old Pawai *pargana*) section of the *tahsil* is some of the most fertile in the State, this part being known as the Haveli valley. The Patnai, Ken, Atoni, Simarda and other streams water the *tahsil*.

Population was, in 1901, 51,626 ; males 25,599, females 26,027 ; of whom 46,455, or 89 per cent., were Hindus.

The *tahsil* comprises 274 villages, of which 68 are *khālsā*, 58 *lambardārī* and 148 alienated in *jāgīrs*, etc. A *tahsildār* has charge of the *tahsil*. The revenues amount to about 1.17 lakh.

#### GAZETTEER.

**Aktohān, tahsil Aktohān.**—The headquarters of the *tahsil* situated in 25° 8' N., and 80° 0' E., 32 miles north-west of Pannā. Population (1901), 1,326. The *tahsil* offices and a school are located here.

**Baraichh, tahsil Pannā.**—A village 19 miles south of Pannā ; population (1901), 563. This place is only of importance as having been the seat of a local saint, Himmat Dās Misr, whose grandson still resides here. The tales told of Himmat Dās, whose memory is held in great reverence, are many, and of the usual type.

**Baxwāho, tahsil Malahra.**—A village formerly the headquarters of the *pargana* of this name, situated in 24° 13' N.,

and  $79^{\circ} 21'$  E.; population (1901), 1,630. A school is situated here.

**Birsingpur** (*Birsinghpur*), *tahsil* Birsingpur.—The headquarters of the *tahsil* situated in  $24^{\circ} 48'$  N., and  $81^{\circ} 1'$  E.; population was, in 1901, 2,157. The *nāib-tahsildār* has his offices here, a school and an Imperial post office being also located in the village. Birsingpur is 12 miles by country track from Jaitwāra station on the Itārsī-Jabalpur Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

The temple of Gaibināth Mahādeo lies just over the border in Sohāwal, but the fairs held on the *Basant Panthamī* and *Shirarātri* take place within the State.

**Dharampur**, *tahsil* Dharampur.—The headquarters of the *tahsil* lying in  $24^{\circ} 59'$  N., and  $80^{\circ} 27'$  E.; population, 1,103. The *tahsil* offices and a school are located here.

**Ghogri**, *tahsil* Malahra.—A village situated in  $24^{\circ} 13'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 12'$  E., 9 miles from Baxwāho; population (1901), 120. A large religious fair, attended by over 5,000 persons, is held here at the *Alakar Sankrānt*, when pilgrims bathe in some tanks at this spot.

**Guara**, *tahsil* Malahra.—The headquarters formerly of the *pargana* of this name; is situated in  $24^{\circ} 30'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 7'$  E. A picturesque fort on a small elevation overlooks the village, and from its summit gives a magnificent view over the surrounding country. Population (1901), 2,288. A school is situated here.

**Kakredi**, *tahsil* Birsingpur.—A village 16 miles east of Birsingpur; population (1901), 93. The ruins of an old city lie 2 miles from the village, and are assigned by tradition to a city of the Banāphar heroes, Alha and Udal.

**Mahodra**, *tahsil* Mahodra.—A village and headquarters of the *tahsil* situated in  $24^{\circ} 11'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 58'$  E.; population (1901), 945 persons. Besides the *tahsil* offices a school and a dispensary are located here.

**Malahra**, *tahsil* Malahra.—The headquarters of the *tahsil* of this name, lying in  $24^{\circ} 34'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 21'$  E.; population (1901), 1,300. Besides the *tahsil* offices a school, a dispensary and an Imperial post office are located here.

**Naiagaon**, *tahsil* Birsingpur.—A village 4 miles from west of Birsingpur; population (1901), 1,285. The monastery of Urmal Dās stands in this village. Urmal Dās was a wandering ascetic, who took up his residence at this place where he died at the advanced age of 80. The Mahārājā of Rowah

supports the monastery by paying for *pūjāris* and defraying the cost of worship at the shrine of Urmal Dās. The shrine is situated in the house in which the ascetic died, where his prayer-carpet, two pillows and his sandals are kept on a wooden table and worshipped as reliques. The *mahant*, Mūdho Dās, receives Rs. 50 a month from the Rewah Chief.

**Naināgir, tāhsil Malahra.**—A village in 24° 8' N., and 79° 9' E., 12 miles from Baxwāho. On the hill which overlooks the village stand some Jain temples built, it is said, in V. S. 1709, or 1652 A. D. The temples number about 40. An annual fair is held, lasting from *Kārtik Sudī* 11th to *Aghan Badī* 2nd, which is attended by large numbers, the Jains coming from long distances. In 1886, a special *Rath* procession was held, at which over 100,000 Jains gathered together.

**Pannā Town, tāhsil Pannā.**—The chief town of the State, situated in 24° 43' north latitude, and 80° 12' east longitude. The site is a picturesque one, the town lying about 800 feet above sea-level and 300 below the neighbouring hills in a valley containing several lakes and highly cultivated, while the encircling hills are clothed in forest. It is 44 miles by metalled road from Satna station on the East Indian Railway, and 75 miles from Harpalpur on the Jhānsi-Mānikpur Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

Pannā was originally a Gond settlement, but fell apparently to the Baghela chiefs of Rewah in the 13th or 14th century. It was in 1494, in the time of Rājā Bhira, and again in 1499, the object of an attack by Sikandar Lodi. In 1555 it was held by Rājā Rām Chandra of Rewah. In the 17th century it was taken by Chhatarsāl, and became a place of importance in 1675, when he made it his capital. Tieffenthaler, who visited the place about 1765, calls Pannā a populous village of the *Dangākī* chief, famous for its diamond mines.<sup>1</sup>

The buildings in the town are largely constructed of local stone which gives it a clean and substantial appearance. The most important edifices are the palace, the temples to Jugal Kishor, Shri Baldeoiji, Jagdishji and Prān Nāth.

The temple of Jugal Kishor, a form of Krishna, contains the tutelary deity of the Pannā chiefs, which is said to have been brought from Muttra, under miraculous direction. On the full moon of the month of *Kārtik*, a 10-days feast is held here, during which the temple is illuminated and is visited by large numbers of worshippers. The temple of Baldeoiji was built

1. E. M. H., IV, 462; V, 82, 93, 94, 95; VI, 31, 32 (Patna), 57, 117. It should be noted that in some Manuscripts Pannā or Patna is certainly put for Bhata, the name of the district in which Pannā lies. Tieff : 1—216.

in the time of Rājā Rudra Pratāp Singh from plans made by Mr. Manly, and is designed on the model of St. Paul's Cathedral.

The temple of Prān Nāth belongs to the interesting local sect of the Dhāmis or Prān-nāthīs.

The exact date of Prān Nāth's arrival in Pannā is very uncertain. From the best accounts he appears to have come in the time of Rājā Sabha Singh in about 1742, and not as popular tradition has it in the time of Chhatarsūl.<sup>1</sup>

Prān Nāth appears to have risen to favour by being instrumental in causing the diamond mines to be re-opened. Prān Nāth was a native of Jānnagar in Kāthiawār, and was of Kshatriya caste. He is said to have arrived with a following of 1,100 *bairāgis*, and to have settled down on the bank of the Kundia river. The water of this stream had up to then been poisonous, but Prān Nāth took a mouthful, and then spat it back into the river, and since then it has been drinkable.

Prān Nāth, like Kabīr, was well versed in the lore of both the Hindu and Muhammadan faiths, and endeavoured to show that no essential difference existed between them.

To this end he collected a large number of sayings from the *Vedas* and from the *Kurān*, which he compiled into fourteen books, all in verse. The language is very uncouth. The disciples of Prān Nāth prove their acceptance of his doctrines by eating in a mixed assembly of Hindus and Muhammadans. It does not appear, however, that with this exception and the resulting abolition of all castes, that the two classes in any way confound their civil or religious distinctions, the unity of belief consisting merely in admitting that the God of the Hindu and of the Musalmān or any other faith is in reality one and the same.

Those who follow this faith are known as Prān-nāthīs or Dhāmis.<sup>2</sup> The object of worship in the temple at Pannā is one of Prān Nāth's books, which is kept on a gold embroidered cloth.

It is curious that this faith has penetrated to Nepāl, and that Nepāli Dhāmis come to Pannā to study the tenets of their leader, some 40 Nepālis being in the town in 1905. In Nepāl they are looked at askance, and in 1880 the Darbār ordered their expulsion, and a further prosecution took place in 1902, in which, however, only fines were imposed. To escape persecution they now class themselves as worshippers of Rādhā Krishna. They have no temples, carrying on their devotions in houses, owing

<sup>1</sup>. It should be remarked that dates obtained locally vary by 100 years, but those adopted are apparently the most accurate.

<sup>2</sup>. From Dhām, a name of the Paramātma, or Supreme Spirit.

to the disfavour with which they are regarded; few openly admit to being Dhāmis or as they call it *Pannā-Matis*.<sup>1</sup>

Population was in 1881, 14,676; 1891, 14,705; 1901, 11,346 persons; males 5,702, females 5,644; occupied houses 2,588. Classified by religions, there were 9,127 Hindus, or 80 per cent.; 157 Jains; 1,002, or 17 per cent., Musalmāns; 82 Sikhs, 18 Christians and 60 Animists.

Though no municipality exists, a conservancy establishment is maintained, at a cost of Rs. 1,000 a year. A committee of five members over which the State Superintendent of Police presides, deals with conservancy, roads, lighting, etc., in the town.

*Pawai, tāhsīl Pawai*.—The headquarters of the *tāhsīl*, situated in 24° 16' N., and 80° 10' E., 24 miles from Pannā; population (1901), 1,520. This place is famous for the temple of Kalehi Devi, at which a religious fair is held on *Chait* (March) Sudī 9th, when *jauāra*, or figures of the *nārātṛas*, or nine planets, are presented to the goddess. Much trade is also carried on at this fair. An Imperial post office, a school and a dispensary are located here.

*Raipura, tāhsīl Raipura*.—Formerly the headquarters of the *pargana* of this name, situated in 23° 54' N., and 80° 0' E. Population was, in 1901, 1,684. A school and a dispensary are located here.

An unmetalled road leads to Salaia railway station on the Saugor-Katni Branch of the Bengal-Nāgpur Railway, 5 miles distance.

*Rosāta-Andar, tāhsīl Birsingpur*.—A village 8 miles from Birsingpur, noted for its spring of hot water at the Dhārakund.<sup>2</sup> The spring is situated in a cave containing a *lingam*. Many persons go to bathe in this *kund* at the *Makar Sankrānt*. A limestone quarry exists close by. Tradition has it that this *kund* was one of the sacrificial tanks used by Daksha at his famous sacrifice.<sup>3</sup>

*Sārang, tāhsīl Pannā*.—A village situated in 24° 45' N., and 80° 24' E., 8 miles from Pannā. Population (1901), 14. It is only of importance for the large religious fair held here at the *Makar Sankrānt* and known as the *Bud-ki-mela*. Over 5,000 persons attend the fair. The place is popularly said to be the locality at which Rāma left his famous bow *Shārangdhar*. The *asan* of Sudī-Krishna Muni was also here; he was a follower of Agastya Muni. Large numbers of pilgrims bathe in the Rāma-kund tank at this spot.

1. Note from Resident in Nepal.

2. This is not the hot spring mentioned by Franklin—J. A. B., XXXIII, 49.

3. Probably Jain Tirthankars.

**Simaria, tahsīl Raipura.**—Formerly headquarters of the *pargana* of this name, lying in  $24^{\circ} 16'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 54'$  E. Population (1901), 974.

In 1842, Simaria belonged to the Jaitpur chief, Rājā Pārichhat, who rebelled. The Rājā, who had taken up his position in the fort, was obliged to evacuate it by a British force, and the place then remained in British possession until 1859, when it was made over to the Pannā chief in return for his services during the Mutiny. A school and a dispensary are located here.

**Singhora, tahsīl Pawai.**—A village situated in  $24^{\circ} 26'$  N., and  $80^{\circ} 0'$  E., 14 miles from Pawai; population (1901), 241. This place contains five Colossi, <sup>1</sup> called as usual the Pānch Pāndu by villagers, where a religious fair is held at the Makar Sankrānt, when the sun enters Capricornus.

**Surajpura, tahsīl Malahra.**—A village at which iron-ore is still quarried and smelted. It is situated 9 miles from Baxwāhō in  $24^{\circ} 23'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 18'$  E.; population (1901), 24 persons.

**Tighara, tahsīl Raipura.**—A village situated in  $24^{\circ} 18'$  N., and  $80^{\circ} 0'$  E., 12 miles north-east of Simaria. Population, 525. The tomb of a British officer, called Hall, who was killed by Pindāris here on 5th Baisākh Bañi, V. S. 1874, or 7th April 1817, is situated in the village.

---

<sup>1</sup> Probably Jain Tirthankars.



**STATES held by DESCENDANTS of MAHARAJA  
CHHATARSAL.**

The States held are Ajaigarh, Charkhārī, Bijāwar, Sarila, Jignī, Jaso and Lugāsī.

When Chhatarsal divided his possessions, Jagat Rāj, his second son, obtained Jaitpur, including Ajaigarh and Bānda. In 1638, Jagat Rāj called in the Peshwā to assist him against Muhammad Khān Bangash, of Farrukhābād, and it is interesting to note that the Peshwā, while at Jaitpur on this occasion, met the Muhammadan woman, Mastānī, who became the mother of Shamsher Bahādur, whose descendants were destined to destroy the Bundelā power. Dying at Mau-Rānīpur in 1758, Jagat Rāj left six legitimate sons. The eldest Kīrat Singh being dead, Jagat Rāj had selected Kīrat's son, Gūmān Singh, to succeed him. On his death, however, Pahār Singh, a son of Jagat Rāj, seized the *gaddi*. Gūmān Singh and his brother, Khumān Singh, attempted unsuccessfully to assert their claims. Finally, Pahār Singh made terms and gave Gūmān Singh Ajaigarh and Bānda, and Khumān Singh Charkhārī. Jaitpur lapsed through failure of heirs in 1849.

Jaitpur.

Bānda fell to Alī Bahādur in 1792. It was absorbed into the British dominions after the Mutiny of its chief in 1857. Ajaigarh is still held by Gūmān Singh's descendants, and Charkhārī is still in possession of Khumān Singh's family. Bir Singh Dev, the third son of Jagat Rāj, obtained Bijāwar from Gūmān Singh, which is still held by his descendants.

Ajaigarh.  
Charkhārī.  
Bijāwar.

Sarila State was founded by Mān or Amān Singh, a son of Pahār Singh, Jignī, by Padam Singh, a son of Chhatarsal, Jaso, by Bhārat Singh, also a son of Chhatarsal, and Lugāsī by Hirde Shāh's illegitimate son, Sālim Singh. All these are still held, though with much diminished territory, by the descendants of the founders.

Sarila.  
Jignī.  
Jaso.  
Lugāsī.

**APPENDIX B.**

**TRANSLATION of a SUNNUD granted to MAHARAJAH  
KISHORE SING in 1807.**

Be it known to all choudries, kanoongoes, zemindars, malgoozars, and talookdars of that portion of Bundelcund above the Ghats, which was formerly in the possession of Herdee Sah; that Whereas the primary objects of the British Government are the amelioration of the condition of their subjects, and the adjustment of the rights of all just claimants: and Whereas, actuated by this principle the Honourable the East India Company, from motives of liberality, have not thought proper to avail themselves of their title to the possession of the

whole of Bundelcund, which, with an annual revenue of thirty-six lacs, and sixteen thousand rupees, was by an agreement between the two States, ceded to the British Government by His Highness the Peishwa ; but contenting themselves with that territory which is now in their actual possession, they have been pleased to apportion the remaining territory to various Chieftains of this province, possessing just claims, and to certain persons who were in the possession of lands before the introduction of the British authority into this province, and who since the establishment have uniformly professed and evinced their attachment and fidelity to it, with this view that the whole of the inhabitants of this province, both high and low, may pass their days in security and happiness under the benign protection of the British Government ; and Whereas Maharaja Kishore Sing, the grandson of the late Maharaja Herdee Sah, possessing claims in common with the other Rajahs of this province, and sincerely professing attachment to the British Government, has become obedient and submissive to it, and has deputed his Minister, Raj Dhur Guga Sing, to solicit the favour and kindness of the Government : Therefore the Mehals, villages, and diamond mines specified underneath, and situated above the Ghats, are hereby granted and assigned to the Maharajah by the British Government.

It is necessary that the Maharajah, entertaining a due sense of this extensive grant, do strictly perform the conditions of his engagement, in which case he shall never be molested nor opposed by the British Government, but shall continue undisturbed in the enjoyment of his present possession.

Ratified by the Governor-General in Council on 14th May 1807.

**TRANSLATION of a SUNNUD granted to the RAJAH  
KISORE SING BAHADUR, RAJAH of PUNNAH,  
in 1811.**

Be it known to the Chowdries, Canoongoes, etc., of the pergannah of Khuttolah, and the pergannah of Powey, etc., in the province of Bundelcund, that whereas the Maharajah Kishore Sing Bahadur, one of the ancient and hereditary Chieftains of Bundelcund, the heir and proprietor of the share of Herdee Sah (who was the Chief of the Rajahs of Bundelcund) from the period of the annexation of the province of Bundelcund to the dominions of the British Government, has invariably observed a friendly and obedient conduct, and in no instance deviated from the loyalty or attachment due to the British Government, but who, during the period of the agency of Captain John Baillie, having been by a combination of

accidental circumstances prevented from waiting upon that gentleman, deputed Raj Dhur Guga Sing Bahadur on his (the said Rajah's) parts who presented a list of several villages to the aforesaid gentleman, and received a Sunnud for the same, but was not put in possession of those villages ; and moreover many of the villages and lands belonging to the hereditary possessions of the said Rajah, as the share of Herdee Sah, which were in the possession of usurpers, and persons who had no claim thereto, were not included in the above Sunnud—Afterwards, during the agency of Mr. John Richardson, the aforesaid Rajah Kishore Sing himself having waited upon that gentleman was by the orders of the British Government put in possession of all the villages and lands included in the Sunnud already alluded to, and also of those villages and lands which were unjustly possessed by usurpers and false claimants, and every other dispute that existed with other Chiefs and Rajahs having been adjusted and settled :—At this juncture the said Rajah has delivered in an Ikrarnamah (or obligation of allegiance), containing eleven distinct Articles, expressive of his allegiance and attachment to the British Government, and requesting that a Sunnud, confirming the villages and lands at present in his possession may be granted by the British Government. For the above reasons, the villages and lands enumerated in the subjoined schedule, with all the rights and tenures and usages, revenues, lands or sayer, together with forts and fortified places, are hereby granted to the said Rajah and his heirs, exempt from the payment of revenue in perpetuity. So long as the said Rajah Kishore Sing and his heirs shall observe and adhere faithfully to the articles of the obligation of allegiance which he has delivered in to the British Government, no sort of molestation or resumption shall ever take place on the part of the British Government. It is necessary that you shall all consider and view the said Rajah as the proprietor and lord of the above enumerated possessions. The conduct which it is incumbent on the said Maharajah to observe is to exert himself to the utmost of his power in the cultivation and improvement of the said possessions, and to pay attention to the prosperity and comfort of the people, and to enjoy the produce of the same in firm obedience, loyalty, and submission to the British Government. After the sanction of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council shall be obtained, another Sunnud, to the same effect, signed by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, shall be exchanged or substituted in the place of the present Sunnud granted by the Agent to the Governor-General.

Ratified by the Governor-General in Council on 3rd May 1811.

---





**CHARKHARI STATE.**



Arms of the  
Charkhari State.



**Arms:**—Argent, a Ganosh enthroned proper. **Crest:**—Vindhya-vāsinī Devī proper. **Supporters:**—Dexter Hanumān, sinister Ravi (the Sun).

**Motto:**—*Ganpati Ravi Devī sahit shobhit janh Hanumān,  
Shri Malkhān naresh ko ari dal dalan nishān.*

“Ganesh, Ravi and Devī with Hanumān adorn the flag of Malkhān Singh, a flag which destroys the enemies’ forces.”

**Note.**—These are not the arms given at Delhi. The god Ganesh is adopted as the deity who furthers all enterprises, Ravi or the Sun refers to the Bundelās as being Sūrya Vanshī Rājputs, Vindhya-vāsinī Devī is the *kul-devata* or family goddess and Hanumān the warrior god. Malkhān Singh is the present Chief.

The Delhi banner bore Murrey; a pale or gutty de sang; on a chief azure a boy’s head proper affronte wearing a civic crown or; **Crest:**—A ram statant argent and motto, *Tan man dhan se.* **Supporters:**—Black bear and spotted deer. **Motto:**—*Sinhāsanesho rana vijayi.*

This alluded to an incident in the Mutiny of 1857, when Mr. Carne took refuge with the chief, and the Rājā declined to deliver him over to Tāntia Topi when besieged by that rebel, sending his son (boy’s head) as a hostage instead. A ram is the emblem of Mars or *Mangal*. The upper motto refers to the same incident meaning that the chief has served the British with “body, mind and possessions.” The lower motto alludes to the capture of a Mughal official’s chair of state and means “The victorious in war is the master of the throne.”

**Gotrāchār**—(See Orchhā State.)



## CHAPTER I.

### DESCRIPTIVE.

#### Section I.—Physical Aspects.

The State of Charkhārī is one of the *sānād* states under the Bundelkhand Agency in Central India. Situation.

The State is a good deal broken up, but its various portions lie between  $24^{\circ} 40'$  and  $25^{\circ} 54'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 22'$  and  $80^{\circ} 30'$  E. It has an area of about 763 square miles.<sup>1</sup>

No authentic account exists as to the origin and meaning of the name Charkhārī, but the local tradition runs that Charkhārī comes from Charkhara, a hyena, an animal which was formerly met with in large numbers at the chief town.

The Charkhārī State is composed of eight separate tracts within the British District of Hamtpur and a ninth lying on the banks of the Dhasān. It is bounded on the west by the Dhasān river which separates it from Orchha, on the north and east by the Chhattarpur State and on the south by Bijāwar.

The State is situated entirely in the lowlying natural division of Central India. Broad level plains with the low serrated ridges common to the Bundelkhand gneiss country meet the eye in all directions.

There are no hills of any height, the most important being the Ranjita hill at Charkhārī itself on which the fort of Mangalgārī stands, which rises to about 300 feet above the level of the lake below.

The Dhasān, Ken, and Urmal are the three chief rivers which flow through the State. The Ken passes through the Satwāra *pargana* on the west of the State and the Dhasān and Urmal through the Isānagar *pargana* on the east. No irrigation is carried out from any of these rivers.

Lakes and tanks are numerous but none hold water throughout the year except the Ratan Sāgar, Jai Sāgar and Bijai Sāgar in the Charkhārī town, the Badauta Kalān tank in the Satwāra *pargana* and the I-sānagar tank in the Isānagar *pargana*.

The State lies almost wholly in the alluvial tract which conceals the Bundelkhand Gneiss on either side of the Ken

<sup>1</sup>. Different areas have been given at various times. In the Census of 1901, an area of 702 square miles; in 1903, 715 and in 1905, 763 was reported in which all statistics have been prepared; but when the printing was started a revised area of 679.59 square miles was intimated.

<sup>2</sup>. By Mr. L. Vreedenburg, *Geological Survey of India*,

river, north of the 25th parallel of latitude. Some of the out-lying districts, situated on the high land which intervenes between the Vindhya-chal and Pannā ranges, border on the diamond bearing tracts, a few not very productive mines being worked in the Rānīpur *pargana*.

## BOTANY. I.

The towns and villages have in their neighbourhood groves or scattered individuals of tamarinds, mangoes, *pipal*, baīyans, and similar useful or semi-sacred species. On waste land is the usual brushwood forest of Central India, largely made up of shrubs, such as *Grewia*, *Zizyphus*, *Casuarina*, *Phyllanthus* and *Woodfordia*; wild trees include *Bomax*, *Butea*, *Anogeissus*, *Acacia*, *Bassia*, *Boswellia* and similar species.

## FAUNA.

Black buck (*Antilope cervicapra*), boars, *chital* (*Cervis axis*), panthers, sāmbar (*Cervis unicolor*), and nilgai (*Antelope tragocamelus*) are common: tigers are only occasionally found in the Rānīpur jungles. There is a considerable *chital* preserve near the chief town.

The birds both migratory game, fowl and others are the same as those occurring elsewhere in Peninsular India. The Ken and Dhasān abound in *mahseer* (*Barbus mosal*) and other fish.

Climate  
(Table I).

The climate of the State is temperate.

Rainfall  
(Table II).

The average annual rainfall is 44 inches. A maximum of 59·7 fell in 1891 and a minimum of 24·17 in 1896.

Section II.—History.  
(Genealogical Tree.)

The history of the State dates from 1761. Chhatarsāl, the Pānnā chief, in 1732 divided his territory into several portions, and one of these worth 33 lakhs, with its capital at Jaitpur, was assigned to his second son, Jagat Rāj. Jagat Rāj died in 1758. He had nominated Gūmān Singh, son of his eldest son Kīrat Singh, who had predeceased him, as his successor. His uncle Pahār Singh, however, opposed him and forced him and his brother Khumān Singh to take refuge in the fort at Charkhāri.

In 1761 Pahār Singh made terms with them, and assigned them territory, giving Gūmān Singh Bānda (now in the United Provinces) and Ajaigarh and Khumān Singh Charkhāri then estimated to produce 9 lakhs of revenue.

During his rule Karāmat Khān and Hīmmat Bahādur, the Gūsūn,<sup>1</sup> then in the service of the Nawāb of Lucknow, invaded Bundelkhand, at the head of a large force. The Charkhārī, Pannā and other Bundelā leaders united and took the field against the invaders at Mungas, about 12 miles from Bāndā. The Bundelās won the day, Karāmat being killed, while Hīmmat Bahādur fled across the Jumna. Khumān Singh is said to have greatly distinguished himself in the action.

Khumān Singh later on quarrelled with his brother Guṇān Singh of Bāndā, and was mortally wounded at Panrori in a fight with Arjun Singh in 1782 and was succeeded by his son Bije Bikramājīt (Bijai Bahādur) who was continually at feud with his relatives, especially with Arjun Singh of Bāndā and was ultimately driven out of his State. In 1789 Bije Bikramājīt, in hopes of regaining his possessions, joined Ali Bahādur and Hīmmat Bahādur in their invasion of Bundelkhand. Bijai Bahādur on entering into engagements of fidelity and allegiance received from Ali Bahādur in 1798 a *sanad* for Charkhārī fort, and territory about worth four lakhs of revenue. In 1803, when the English entered Bundelkhand Bijai Bahādur was the first Bundelā chief to make terms, and a *sanad* confirming him in the possession of his land was granted him in 1804, another *sanad* being granted in 1811<sup>2</sup> after the settlement of a dispute regarding certain villages which had been omitted from the previous *sanads*. Bijai Bahādur built the Maundāha fort and the lake and Guest house at Charkhārī. He was fond of literature and himself composed when in exile at Jhānsi a devotional manual called the *Vikrambīrdāvalī*.

Bijai Bahādur died in 1829 and was succeeded by his grandson Ratan Singh, the son of his illegitimate son Ranjit Singh, whose eventual succession had been recognised in 1822, when the Chief's only legitimate son had died. Ratan Singh was confirmed in his possessions and was admitted to have entered into all the rights granted by the *sanads* of 1804 and 1811.

Ratan Singh in 1853 appointed Dīwān Anna Sāhib Gore as his minister. Hitherto there had never been a man trained to affairs at the head of the administration, and considerable changes were soon effected. Among other reforms he, in 1856, started a school where English, Sanskrit and Persian were taught.

1. So say the State records. This appears to refer to Shujā-ud-daula, and Shāh Alam's campaign in 1763-64. Elliot—*History of India as told by its own historians*, Vol. VIII, 213.

Khumān Singh (1761-82).

Bije Bikramājīt (Bijai Bahādur) (1782-1829).

Ratan Singh (1829-60).

2. Appendix A.

In 1857 Ratan Singh assisted the British to the best of his power at the request of Mr. Carne, Collector of Mahoba. The Chief deputed officials to take charge of the Rāth, Jaitpur and Panwāri parganas collecting the revenues and retaining them on behalf of Government. He also sent 100 men and a gun to assist Mr. Lloyd at Hamirpur.<sup>1</sup> When the ex-Rāni of Jaitpur who was living at Jatāra in Orchā temporarily seized Jaitpur, assisted by Diwān Deshpāt, Ratan Singh at once sent a force and turned them out but not without a severe struggle.

In January 1857, Tāntia Topī appeared before Charkhāri and in March finally forced the Chief to take refuge in the fort. In the fort were several refugees including Mr. Carne.

The Chief was ultimately obliged to come to terms and consented to pay 3 lakhs and send his son Kunwar Jai Singh to visit Tāntia Topī, but refused absolutely to give up any of the refugees. Tāntia Topī did not, however, leave after Kunwar Jai Singh's arrival, intending to insist on the surrender of Mr. Carne. The news of the siege of Jhānsi, however, made him leave suddenly for that place. Meanwhile, the Chief managed to send Mr. Carne, disguised as a Bundelā Thākūr to Pannā. The Chief was rewarded for his loyalty with a land grant in perpetuity of the value of Rs. 20,000 a year, a *khilat*, a hereditary salute of 11 guns and the privilege of adoption.

Ratan Singh died in 1860 and was succeeded by his son Jai Singh Dey, then a minor. The privilege of adoption previously granted was confirmed by *sanad* in 1862.

The regency was at first entrusted to the boy's mother Rāni Bakht Kunwar on the understanding that she would manage the State in harmony with Maulvi Siraj Husain and Diwān Anna Sāhib Gore, appointed ministers by the late chief. The Rāni, however, quarrelled with them and in 1862 was removed from the regency, the State being put under Colonel Thompson. In 1866 the British Officer was withdrawn and the administration was left to Diwān Anna Sāhib Gore. He died the next year and was succeeded by his son Tāntia Sāhib Gore who introduced improvements. He erected the High School building and the Hospital (1868), built many roads and the Jai Sāgar tank.

In 1874 Jai Singh was granted administrative powers. He was a man of weak intellect, with a tendency to religious fanaticism, and his administration was an entire failure. In 1877 he attended the Delhi Assemblage, and then proceeded on a

<sup>1.</sup> *Narrative (official) of Events regarding the Mutiny in India*, Vol. I, p. 515.

pilgrimage practically spending the rest of his life at Bindrāban, while the State affairs got into hopeless confusion.

In 1879 a Political Officer Captain F. H. Maitland, afterwards Lord Lauderdale, was put in as Superintendent, the Chief's powers being curtailed and formally taken away the next year. On 9th March 1880 Jai Singh committed suicide by eating some *dhatūras* which had been offered in a temple, dying the next morning from the effects of the poison.

Jai Singh died childless and without adopting. His widow adopted the present chief Malkhān Singh, a son of Naune Jujhār Singh of a collateral branch of the family, a boy of 9 years old, who was recognised by the British Government, the State being put under the superintendence of a special Political Officer.

Malkhān  
Singh  
(1880—)

In 1886 the special officer was withdrawn and the State replaced under the Political Agent in Bündelkhand, Rao Bahādur Jujhār Singh being put in charge of the administration. Many important reforms were carried out during the minority especially in the Public Works Department which was placed in charge of a European engineer.

In 1892 the Chief was granted partial administrative powers and in 1894 plenary powers, and has since managed the State personally, with the assistance of his father Rao Bahādur Diwān Jujhār Singh Ju Dev, C. I. E., as minister. Numerous reforms and improvements have been carried out since 1894 including a settlement, the reorganisation of the police, and many useful public works. In 1897-98 the State suffered severely from famine which was combated with great energy by the Mahārājā. In 1902 the Chief was created a K. C. I. E. and in the next year attended the Imperial *darbār* at Delhi. He was present at Indore in 1905 during the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Chief bears the hereditary titles of His Highness Mahārājā Dhirāj Sipahdār-ul-mulk and enjoys a salute of 11 guns.

Titles.

### Section III.—Population.

#### (TABLES III AND IV.)

Three enumerations have taken place in the State giving in 1881, 143,015 ; 1891, 143,108 ; 1901, 123,954.

Enumeration-

The variation in the last decade amounted to 19,154 or a decrease of 13 per cent. The density per square mile was 163.

Variation  
and  
Density.

There is one town Charkhāri with a population of 11,718 and 504 villages. Of the latter 437 have a population of under 500, 47 of between 500 and 1,000, and 20 of between 1,000 and 2,000.

Towns  
and  
Villages.

## Migration.

Of the total population 77,565 persons or 62 per cent. were born in the State and 24,445 or 19 per cent. in other parts of Bundelkhand. Of foreigners 20,247 or 18 per cent., come from the United Provinces.

## Vital Statistics (Table V).

A beginning has just been made in returning births and deaths which give for the year 1906-07, 1,377 births and 2,596 deaths.

## Sex and Civil Condition.

The figures for 1901 gave 62,773 males and 61,181 females or 974 females to 1,000 males for the whole State, 696 to 1,000 males for the districts and 1,032 to 1,000 males for Charkhāri town.

The figures for civil condition shew 103 wives to 100 husbands for the whole State and 113 to 100 for Charkhāri town.

## Religions.

Classified by religions there were 118,007 or 95 per cent. Hindus, 335 Jains, 4,812 or 4 per cent. Musalmāns and 770 Animists.

## Language and Literacy.

The prevailing dialect is Bundelkhandi spoken by 84,935 persons or 73 per cent. of the population; other dialects are Banāpharī spoken by 17,533 persons, Khatola by 9,821 and Rāthorī by 1,957. Hindi was used by 8,543.

Of the whole population 1,700 or 3 per cent. were literate. The figures for Charkhāri town shew 9 per cent. literate males.

## Castes.

The prevailing castes in the State are Chamārs (15,961), Brāhmans (14,226), Balais (8,629), Rājputs (8,271) and Kāchhīs (7,659).

## SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS, Dress.

Little distinction is to be noticed between local Muhammādans and Hindus, the former assimilating their dress, and even their customs, to those adopted by the latter. The *angarkha*, *kurta* and *sāfa* are generally worn.

## Food.

Flesh is eaten by none of the higher castes, and liquor is drunk by few. The poorer classes live mainly on *dhanian* (a kind of *sāmān*), *kulkī* (*Panicum miliare*), *sāmān* (*P. frumentareum*), *kākun* (*Setaria italica*) and the fruits of the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*), and *achār* (*Buchanania latifolia*).

The rich eat wheat, rice, gram and fruits: a few only eat flesh.

## Daily life.

The trading classes are busy eight months in the year, the slack season being during the rains. Cultivators similarly have two months of leisure, after the gathering of the *rabi* crops.

Houses are mostly of mud and tiled.

Marriage ceremonials are the same as those observed in other parts of India; the expenses in the case of the poorer classes amount to about Rs. 50 to 100, and in the case of the middle classes from Rs. 500 to 2,000; the rich often spend very large sums on this ceremony.

A local *sabha* for controlling expenditure on marriages has been formed which works in connection with the *Berville-krit Thākur Hitkārini Sabha*.

Hindus are burnt, but Musalmāns and infants are buried.

The chief holidays observed are the *Diwāli*, *Dasahra* and *Holi* by Hindus, and the *Muharram* and *Ids* by Muhammadans.

The State recognizes about 30 holidays in the year, during which offices are closed.

There have been no serious epidemics in the State, though in 1903 Charkhāri town suffered somewhat from small-pox.

Marriage.

Disposal of  
dead  
Festivals.

Public health.

CHAPTER II.  
ECONOMIC.  
(TABLES VII TO XV, XXIX AND XXX.)  
Section I.—Agriculture.  
(TABLES VII-X.)

**General conditions.**

The character of the land varies in different parts of the State. The soil of the two *parganas* of Satwāra and Bāwan-Chaurāsi is rich, while that of Isūnagar is poor, bearing *kharif* crops chiefly, that of Rānīpur being the poorest and noted for its barren and rocky nature. The crops depend entirely on the annual rainfall and the failure of good and timely rains in past years has thrown much land out of cultivation.

**Conformation of surface.**

The surface of the country is generally speaking level, and save where it is cut up by gneiss rock or ravines is easily cultivated.

**Classification of soils.**

The soil is classed according to its natural formation. The principal classes of soil recognised in the State are:—*Mār* or *motī*, *kābar*, *parua*, *rānkār-motī*, *rānkār-pattī*, *kachhār* and *kherau*.

*Mār* is a rich black soil formed by the disintegration of the rock in the intrusive dykes common in this region. It lies in patches at a low level. It is very retentive of moisture which gives it its great value. *Kābar* is in many respects similar to *mār*. It is, however, of a lighter colour, is more mixed with sandy particles and does not retain moisture to the same extent, and consequently is not so productive as *mār*. *Parua* occurs generally on high ground and is cultivated chiefly in the rainy season. It is of a light yellowish brown colour and is well suited for growing cotton and sugarcane. *Rānkār* is of two kinds, *motī* and *pattī*. The latter is the poorest of all soils but when the rains are favourable it gives fair *kharif* crops but any lack of moisture causes failure. *Kachhār* is land in the vicinity of streams or the overflow of lakes. It is generally very rich and is of necessity confined to rabi crops and vegetables as it is under water during the *kharif* season. *Kherau* is land, situated near a village, which is manured and irrigated from wells. It may be of any of the classes mentioned and is often *rānkār*. The crops noted below against each soil are usually grown in it:—

*Mār* and *rānkār*.—Wheat, gram, masūrī, alsī, jundī (or jowār), til or tili, arhar, cotton, kodon, mung, urda or urad, san and amārī.

*Parua* and *kachhār*.—Gram, barley, *jowār*, *tilī*, cotton.

*Rānkar-patli*.—*Kākun*, *sāmān*, *kodon*.

*Kherau*.—Barley, *pissi* and *makka* (or maize).

Two seasons are recognized, the *siārī* or *kharif* when the common grains such as *kodon*, maize, and *jowār* are sown, and the *uhārī* or *rabi* when wheat, gram and barley are cultivated. The first season lasts from about May to November, the second from November to March.

The famine of 1896-97 and the poverty caused thereby led to a decrease in cultivation. A considerable area of *mār* land has in consequence been thrown out of cultivation, owing to the growth of *kāns* (*Imperata spontanea*) grass whose roots penetrate the soil so deeply that it cannot be eradicated.

The only possible remedy in such cases is to let the land lie fallow for 10 or 12 years, when it dies off and the land again becomes capable of yielding crops.

The soil for the *kharif* sowings is broken in May or June as soon as rain falls. It is then again ploughed twice or thrice until it has absorbed enough moisture when it is sown.

The ploughings for the *rabi* sowings continue till September, when the sowings commence.

The *kharif* crops are sown in *Asārh* (June-July) and cut in *Kūnītār* (September-October), and the *rabi* crops in *Kūnītār* and *Kātik* (October-November) and cut in *Phāgūn* (February-March) and *Chait* (March-April). But since the famine of 1896-97 the people have taken to sowing *kharif* instead of *rabi* crops, owing to the uncertain rainfall and want of sufficient means.

*Jowār* is generally alternated with wheat or gram and sometimes cotton and *til* with *jowār*. In *mār* soil wheat and gram are alternated with *jowār* and in *parua* soil wheat or gram with cotton and *tilī*.

*Dufasli* or double cropped land is first sown with *kākun* or *sāmān* and reaped in the rains, afterwards gram and barley are put in as a second crop in November.

The commonest forms of mixed sowings are *arhar* with *mūng*, *kodon* with *tilī* and *urad* with *tilī*.

Manuring is mainly confined to fields adjoining villages. Manure consists of cow dung and village sweepings.

The implements used are those which have been employed since the earliest days. The *hal* or plough, *patha* or log for

Seasons.

Extension or decrease of cultivation.

System of cultivation.

Sowings.

Rotation.

Double cropping.

Mixed sowings.

Manuring.

Implements.

crushing clods on a ploughed field, the *phāora* or spade and *kharpi* or hoe are the most important.

**Area cultivated.**

The normal area cultivated at the *kharif* amounts to 100,000 acres and at the *rabi* to 62,500 acres. The most important crops in the former case are *jowār* 41,200 acres, *kodon* 10,700 and *tili* 23,800, and at the *rabi* gram 33,900 acres, wheat 9,800 and barley 11,600.

**Principal crops.**

The chief crops sown at the *kharif* are *jowār* or *jundi* (*Sorghum vulgare*), *bājra* (*Pencillaria spicata*), *kodon* (*Paspalum stoloniferum*), *mūng* (*Phaseolus mungo*), *urda* (*Phaseolus radiatus*), *arhar* (*Cajanus indicus*), *sāmān* (*Panicum miliare*), *kākun* (*Setaria italica*), *til* (*Sesamum indicum*), *kapās* or cotton (*Gossypium indicum*), *dhān* or rice (*Oryza sativa*), *rāli* (*Panicum miliaceum*), *basara*, *kutki* (*Panicum psilopodium*), *mothī* (*Phaseolus aconitifolius*), *san* (*Crotolaria juncea*), *amārī* (*Hibiscus cannabinus*). The crops at the *rabi* are *gehūn* or wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), *chana* or gram (*Cicer arietinum*), *jau* or barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), *alsī* or linseed (*Linum usitatissimum*), *batra*, *masūr* (*Eruca lens*).

**Oil-seeds.**

Oil-seeds are *tili*, linseed and *sarson* (*Bassia campestris*). The two former are sown extensively, the latter to a limited extent.

**Fibres.**

The two classes of hemp, *san* and *amārī*, are sown to a limited extent only. Cotton is sown over a large area.

**Garden produce.**

Many kinds of spices, vegetables and fruit are cultivated. The commonest are *dhania* (*Coriander sativum*), *rāi* or mustard, *ajwān* (*Linguisticum ajowan*), *haldi* or turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), *lahsan* or garlic (*Allium sativum*), *piāz* or onions, potatoes, chillis (*Capsicum*), *zīra* (cumin), native vegetables, including many kinds of gourd; and of fruit trees, the mango, guava, orange, pomegranate, lime, custard apple and other ordinary varieties.

**Stimulants.**

Tobacco is the only stimulant cultivated and is grown to a limited extent only.

**Staple food crops.**

Wheat is chiefly used by the rich. The middle classes use wheat, gram and barley, and the poor classes *jowār*, *bājra*, *kodon*, *sāmān* and *kākun*.

**Subsidiary food crops.**

The chief subsidiary crops are the pulses, *urda*, *mūng*, *masūr*, *arhar* and *mothī*.

**Progress.**

No new agricultural implements or new varieties of seed have been introduced.

**Irrigation. General condition.**

Very little irrigation is carried on in the State. Barley and *pissi* (soft red wheat) are the two chief crops which are irrigated

when means for it exist. In two villages of the State betel leaf and sugarcane (*barai*) are grown from artificial irrigation.

The principal sources of water are wells and tanks. The usual means employed are the *charsa*, a bucket lift, and *rahats* or Persian wheels in the case of wells; and channels from tanks.

The cost of digging a well varies with the nature of the soil and the distance below the surface at which water is found. In some parts a masonry well costs Rs. 75 and a *kachcha* or earthen well Rs. 25. In others a masonry well costs Rs. 150 and a *kachcha* well Rs. 50.

There are no very special local breeds of animals in any part of the State, though those imported from the banks of the Ken called *keniya* are considered superior to other local breeds.

In all large villages the cultivators rear plough cattle, cows, buffaloes, sheep and goats.

There have always been ample pasture grounds and the land which went out of cultivation during the last famine has contributed to increase them.

No difficulties are experienced in feeding cattle in a normal year as *karbi*, hay and *bhūsa* can be obtained in abundance, if grass is deficient, and in famine time the people are allowed to graze their cattle in the forest reserves.

The common diseases prevalent among cattle are the following:—

*Gurphuta* :—As a remedy people keep the cattle standing for some time in mud or marshy ground and feed it with bread made from *urda* flour and oil. *Patka* or *Uchla* :—Certain incantations are used to cure it. *Bhawāni* :—The cattle are fed with *deol* (crushed gram soaked in water) and the goddess Devi is worshipped. *Bhonra* :—Certain incantations are used to cure it. The cattle are also taken out the village boundary where liquor is offered to the boundary deity.

About 90 per cent. of the population live on agriculture, the chief castes being Brāhmans, Ahirs, Rājputs, Kāchhīs, Kurmis and Lodhīs.

In normal years it is not usual to make advances in any shape.

In those *parganas* where *zakhirāt* or grain stores exist, seed advances are made to the cultivators on condition of their repaying in kind ; the interest called *sawai* or  $1\frac{1}{4}$  (25 per cent.) on the seed they received being levied. In years of scarcity or famine, advances of all kinds are made to the cultivators and no interest is charged on them. These advances are realised at harvest time.

Description  
of local  
methods.

Cost of  
wells.

Local breeds.

Pasture  
grounds.

Feeding  
cattle.

Cattle dis-  
eases.

Agricultural  
Population.

Takkāvi

## Section II.—Wages and Prices.

## (TABLES XIII AND XIV.)

## Wages.

All wages were in early days paid in kind, and this custom still exists in regard to field operations, though it has now become common to pay wages for even agricultural labour in cash and the people to a great extent prefer it. Wages vary in different parts of the State. At the capital town a skilled labourer is paid from four to eight annas a day and an unskilled labourer from one to three annas; in villages a skilled labourer gets from two to four annas a day and an unskilled labourer from three pice to two annas.

In villages day labourers are still paid in kind especially for cutting and reaping crops. *Puris* or bundles of the crop are given for a day's work (a *puri* contains about two seers weight of grain).

Servants and artisans are now paid in cash in the town, and even in villages unless they prefer grain instead.

No very marked alteration has taken place in wages in the districts as communications are still few and export has not increased to any great extent.

**Material condition.** The material condition of the people in general in the different parts of the State is good, and a decided improvement on what it was 20 years ago.

Twenty years ago hardly any difference could be discerned between the dress of a clerk and a cultivator, as all wore coarse country cloth. A day labourer was seldom seen wearing any clothes except a *dhoti*, while his furniture consisted of a bed and *doria* (coarse sheeting) only.

Their style of living was very simple and cheap, so that a man could live easily on a rupee a month, but luxuries were unknown. Now, however, a middle class clerk wears an *achkan* or *kurta* of fine cloth and a cap or *safa*, and occasionally trousers instead of a *dhoti*. The cultivator even usually wears a *mirzai*, a short coat reaching to the waist and often padded, of good long-cloth, and wraps a *safa* on his head; while on festivals all these people use finer and more expensive garments. Even a day labourer can often afford a *mirzai* of coarse cloth and occasionally a *safa*, while as a rule he carries a sheet (*chaadra*) which can be tied round the head or wrapped round the waist while at work. In regard to furniture no material change is noticeable, though *dorias* of coarse cloth are being replaced by coloured cloths of fine *gazi* or long-cloths.

The increased facility for importing various articles has thus raised the standard of living of almost every class even in villages.

## Section III.—Forests.

## (TABLE IX.)

Strictly speaking, the Charkhāri State possesses no real forests, though about 40 square miles of land are so classed. Certain tracts are reserved for grass or special trees.

*Ramma Umri*.—This *ramma* is situated in the Satwāra *pargana*. It abounds in bamboos, *khair*, *tendū*, *ghont*, *inguā*, *dhawa*, *sāgon*, *sandan*, *salai* and *bijān*. These trees are utilised for building purposes. This *ramma* is mainly, however, a shooting preserve and is rarely utilised in any other way. In famine years the people of the adjoining villages are allowed to graze their cattle here and take wood for fuel free of any fee. In the Bāwan-Chaurīsi *pargana* there are two *rammas* containing *ām*, *pīpal*, *bar*, *umar*, *chhiula*, *shīsham* and *simra*, used mainly as fuel and in making implements required for agricultural purposes. Cultivators are allowed to take a head-load of wood for fuel free of any charge. The greater part of these reserves is kept for grass, for State use.

Reserves

The State keeps an establishment consisting of a *hilledār* and a few sepoys and *banrakhs* (rangers) under the *tahsīldār* to look after the forests. Their duty is to prevent the cutting of trees or grass without permission and to help officials when out shooting in the preserve.

Control

Members of the Kherua and Kondar casts live and work in the jungles. The former make catechu from the *khair* trees, and the latter collect honey and other minor products of the forests for sale.

Jungle tribes

The most important trees are given in the list below :—

*Achār* (*Buchanania latifolia*), *ām* (*Mangifera indica*), *aonla* (*Phyllanthus emblica*), *bar* (*Ficus indica*), *ber* (*Zizyphus jujuba*), *bijān* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), *chhiula* (*Butea frondosa*), *chhīṭāphal* or *sīvāphal* (*Anona squamosa*), *dhāman* (*Grewia vestita* and *tiliaeefolia*), *dhaica* (*Anogeissus latifolia*), *ghont* (*Zizyphus xylopera*), *imli* (*Tamarindus indica*), *inguā* (*Balanites roxburghii*), *jāmun* (*Eugenia jambolana*), *kaitha* (*Feronia elephantum*), *karaunla* (*Carissa spinarum*), *khair* (*Acacia catechu*), *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*), *makora* (*Zizyphus anoplia*), *nīm* (*Melia indica*), *pīpal* (*Ficus religiosa*), *rāyon* or *teak* (*Tectona grandis*), *salī* or *salaia* (*Boswellia serrata*), *sandan* (*Ougeinia dalbergioides*), *sejā* (*Lanserstreemia parvifolia*), *semār* or *semī* (*Bombax malabaricum*), *shīsham* (*Dalbergia sisso*), *umar* (*Ficus glomerata*).

Prevailing  
trees.

Section IV.—Mines and Minerals.  
(TABLE XII.)

The only mineral deposits in the State are the diamond mines in the Rānipur *pargana*. They are worked by either the State or private persons.

When any one applies for the privilege to start work, the State grants him permission on the condition that he pays the State 25 per cent. on the value of any stone found. Any stone discovered are produced before the State authorities, who fix the value. The income from this source is very fluctuating.

Section V.—Arts and Manufactures:

No important industries exist in the State. The usual weaving of coarse cloth, metal, pottery and lacquer work are carried on.

**Cotton fabrics.** Cotton weaving is carried on by weavers in the different parts of the State, who manufacture the rough coarse cloth called *gārhas* or *gacī* for local use.

In Charkhāri town an industrial school has been started in which excellent rugs, carpets, *daris*, turbans, and *dupattas* of fine muslin are manufactured. Dyeing and stamped work on cloth are also carried on in the school.

**Metal work.** The goldsmiths at the capital make ornaments of gold and silver, such as nose-rings, ear-drops, bangles, necklaces, *pejnas*, *karas*, etc., for local use. The iron work made by the blacksmith consists chiefly of implements required for agricultural purposes, and articles required for household utensils. Brass and copper work is not carried on in any part of the State, except at the capital where the coppersmiths turn out a few utensils of brass and copper such as *nād*, *lotas*, *kalasas*, *thālis*, etc.

**Pottery.** Pottery is made throughout the State by the Kumhārs.

**Lacquer work.** Lacquer work bangles are made by people of the Lakhera class.

**Woollen fabrics.** Blankets are only made in a few villages of the State where large numbers of sheep are kept.

Section VI.—Commerce and Trade.

**General character.** Formerly trade in the State was confined to the sale of grain and money-lending. Fine cloths were only imported on special occasions such as marriages and other festivals, the coarse country cloth being in general use with rich and poor alike.

Since the opening of railways, however, and increased facilities of communication, trade has extended and cloth, hardware and European goods are generally imported in some quantity.

The opening of a railway close to chief town, and the security of all roads have made merchants more enterprising.

Money made is generally hoarded or used to purchase ornaments and jewellery, being seldom or never invested.

The *Kaldār* rupee is the medium of transaction, currency notes not being in common use.

The principal exports are food grains, cotton, *til*, *ghī* and linseed, and the chief imports sugar, salt, cloths, metals and kerosine oil.

There are no returns to show the quantity or relative importance of either exports or imports.

Certain articles such as linseed, *til* and cotton go to Bombay, while the grain is taken to the neighbouring British Districts. Cloth, sugar, salt and kerosine oil are imported from Bombay, Calcutta and Cawnpore, the last being the chief place of importation.

Charkhārī town, the capital of the State, is the only important trading centre.

Chandla and Isānagar, the headquarters of the Satwāra and Isānagar *parganas*, respectively, are local trading centres. Markets are held once a week in every village of any size. The biggest market is held at Rāinpur, a village about a mile and a half from the Charkhārī town, Sunday being the market day. The average attendance of the buyers and sellers at this market is about a thousand. The chief articles offered for sale are local food grains, country made and European cloths, and *ghī*, which the shop-keepers of the town bring to the market. The traders from different places in the State bring grain, *ghī*, sugar and salt, etc. No duty is charged on goods sold or purchased.

The attendance at village markets consists of the villagers of the adjoining villages and hamlets and on the average rarely exceeds 200 people.

Ralli Brothers and Co. have an Agency in Charkhārī town.

The chief merchants of the town are Achhru and Nawal Supāwāls and Gumiūn Bihārī, Sheoprasānd of Matundi, Rām-prasānd Bhawānidin of Khalla and Sheo Charan Tiwārī of Mahoba who are agents for native firms at the places named.

The principal castes engaged in the trade are the Vaishyas and Brāhmans. They deal in cloth, grain, spices and kerosine oil. The Musalmān shop-keepers known as *bisūris* deal in Manchester goods and English articles.

Principal  
Exports and  
Imports.

Trading  
centres.

Firms.

The princi-  
pal trading  
castes.

In the *parganas* besides the Vaishyas, the Telis and Kalârs also deal in grain.

#### Trade routes.

The principal route used in the import and export of articles is the Jhânsi-Mûnikpur section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. Goods are sent to Mahoba station, 10 miles distant from Charkhârî town, by cart.

Local fair weather roads are also used by traffic coming from distant places.

Goods in these cases are carried by country bullock carts and pack animals. The latter are used chiefly in the rains. Shop-keepers are only found in the larger villages. They belong to the Vaishyas, Telis and Kalârs castes and deal in grain, spices and tobacco.

Many shop-keepers also lend money and make advances to villagers and are then known as *sâhu*.

#### Consumption of imported articles.

The consumption of imported articles is increasing yearly. European cloths, kerosine oil, glass and China are coming into general use. Kerosine oil in particular is now met with even in remote villages.

Most trade is local. Only big merchants purchase from Bombay, Cawnpore and Calcutta through agents (*arat*).

The petty dealers take their things for sale from village to village especially on market days which fall as a rule on different days in neighbouring villages. These visits are confined to the winter and the marriage season.

The weights and measures used in the State are given below :—

Precious stones, gold and silver are measured by *rattis*, *mâshas* and *tolas*.

$$8 \text{ Rattis} = 1 \text{ Mâsha.}$$

$$12 \text{ Mâshas} = 1 \text{ Tola.}$$

$$5 \text{ Tolas} = 1 \text{ Chhatâk.}$$

One *ratti* is equal to 18·75 grs. troy.

Surface measures.

Land is measured by the *bîgha*, *biswa* and *biswânsi*.

$$20 \text{ Biswânsi} = 1 \text{ Biswa.}$$

$$20 \text{ Biswas} = 1 \text{ Bîgha.}$$

The local *bîgha* is most variable in different parts but on an average 1 *bîgha*, 12 *biswas* equal to 1 acre or 1 acre = 1·6 *bîgha*.

#### Avoirdupois.

All materials such as grain, salt, sugar, cotton, drugs and oil are measured in large places by British Indian *chhatâks* and *seers*, one *seer* being equal to 80 *kaldâr* rupees or 2 lbs. In small villages it is usual, however, to measure grain such as wheat, gram, barley, *kodon*, etc., by capacity in vessels known as the *kurica*, *chauri*, *pela* and *garn*.

A *chauri* or *kurwa* is made of wood, iron or brass and holds from 12 *chhatāks* to 1½ seer of grain.

A *pela* is made of brass in the form of a cup, and holds from 8 to 10 seers.

A *gaun* is equal to 32 *pelas*.

Liquids are in general measured by British Indian weights, except country liquor and kerosine oil which are also sold by bottles, a quart-bottle being taken as equivalent to 12 *chhatāks*.

Cloth and manufactured silk articles are usually measured in English yards.

In Charkhārī town, however, the yard which the shopkeepers use is equal to 39 inches.

Raw materials in silk and cotton are sold by weight using British Indian weights.

Timber planks, masonry, *kachha* walls and earthwork are generally measured by cubic feet.

British hours are used in Charkhārī town and most large villages, but elsewhere 8 *pahars* of 3 hours each are recognized in the day. The official year in the State begins on *Asārh Sūlī Purnima* (full moon) and ends on the *Jeth Sūlī* 15th. The Vikrama Samvat era commencing on *Chait Sūlī Purnima*, or full moon in March is followed.

### Section VII.—Means of Communication.

#### (TABLE XV.)

No railways or Government roads actually traverse any part of the State. The nearest railway station is that of Mahoba on the Jhānsi-Mānikpur section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, 10 miles distant from Charkhārī town, to which it is connected by a metalled road.

The Railway greatly facilitated the import of grain during the famine of 1897 and thus saved the people from actual starvation and assisted in preventing migration.

The prices of exported articles such as cotton, *ghī* and *alsī*, have risen, while those of kerosine oil, fine cloths and European articles generally have fallen.

All the roads in the State are unmetalled except those in the town, the road from Mahoba to Charkhārī (10 miles) and a road from Lauri to Chandla (9 miles).

Country bullock carts are still generally used, though in Charkhārī town sprung bullock *shigrams* are common, while the Darbār uses carriages of European make.

Ferries are maintained on the Ken and Dhasān during the rains. Members of the Kewat clan use their own boats to work the ferries, a lease being granted them by the Darbār.

By capacity.

By length.

By cubic contents.

Measures of time,

Railways.

Roads.

Carts.

Ferries.

Post and  
Telegraph  
offices  
(Table  
XXIX).

A combined Imperial post and telegraph office has been established at Charkhāri. Elsewhere the State is served by the local postal system. Stamps bearing the effigy of two crossed swords and the words "Charkhāri State" are used in the local post.

The State has its own postal department. There is a head Post office at the capital and branch offices have been opened at the headquarters of *parganas*. The State issue of postage stamps is used within State territory.

#### Section VIII.—Famine.

##### (TABLE XXX.)

Causes of  
Scarcity.

A failure or untimely distribution of rain invariably results in famine or scarcity. A failure of the autumn (*kharif*) crops entails privation on the mass of the people, as the lower classes derive their food supply from the grains sown at this season.

Scarcity of food grains, however, does not cause migration as scarcity of water does, since the former can to a very great extent be supplied by importation, while no means exist for remedying the latter.

In 1868 want of rain for the *kharif* crops caused a partial failure of the harvest, and consequent scarcity for about 4 months, but it was not so severe as to cause actual famine.

In 1896-97, however, an insufficient fall and the early cessation of the rains caused a failure of both crops and a very severe famine prevailed throughout the State. The railway being only 10 miles from the capital, however, traders at once imported grain from the Punjab and thus removed all fear of starvation and checked emigration. Besides the supply of grain, relief works were opened in different parts of the State at convenient centres.

Poor-houses also were started for invalids and children; while money was distributed to *pardānashīn* women, who could not attend the works.

Takkāvi in cash, seed and bullocks was freely made to cultivators. The revenue demand was suspended and one-fourth of the arrears was finally remitted.

The cost to the Darbār (1896-97) was 1·1 lakh, of which Rs. 58,300 was spent on relief works and Rs. 53,000 on other forms of relief.

**CHAPTER III**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE.**  
**(TABLES XVI TO XXVII.)**

**Section I.—Administration.**

The Charkhi State being a *sānāl* State the Chief exercises full powers in all ordinary matters and in civil judicial suits, while in criminal cases his powers are limited.

General.

The Chief is assisted by his minister called the *Mahār-ul-muhām*, who is the principal executive officer and acts under the orders of the Mahārājā. He is assisted by the *nāib-dūcān*.

Minister.

The departments of the administration are the *Huzūr Darbār*, presided over by the Chief, which is the final office of reference in all matters, the *Mahār-ul-muhāmī* or chief executive office, the *Kōtīcālī* or police department, and the *Māl* or revenue department under the *sadr amīn*.

Departments.

The official language in the State is Hindi which is used in all official papers except criminal proceedings where Urdu is employed.

Official Language.

For the purposes of administration the State is divided into four *parganas*, the Biwan-Chaurāsi *pargana*, the Isinagar *pargana*, the Rānipur *pargana*, and the Satwāra *pargana*.

Administrative Divisions.

Each *pargana* is managed by a *tahsildār* who is responsible for the collection of the revenue, and the maintenance of order. The *tahsildār* also exercises the powers of a third class magistrate and can deal with civil suits up to a value of Rs. 500. He also holds preliminary enquiries into cases of mutation of names of *jāmīdārs*, *mūzīdārs* and *zamindārs*. The *tahsildār* is assisted in his work by the *sāzācālī*, *kānungs*, *paticāris*, *shahnas* and *chukkībārs*, besides usual clerical office establishment.

District staff.

The *khānsā* or police inspector controls the criminal work of the *pargana* and submits daily reports to the *nizāmat* office through the *tahsildār*.

The *kānungs* are at the head of the revenue establishment and supervise the work of the *paticāris*, who keep the village accounts and registers. The duty of the *shahna* is to collect the revenue, and that of the *chukkībār* to keep watch over the village, and report to the police any unusual occurrence in the village and also to summon the cultivators and tenants before the *paticāris* and *zamindār*.

The most important village officials are the *paticāris*. In large villages two *paticāris* are appointed, in smaller one only. The *paticāri* is a State official appointed and paid by the *Darbār*.

Village Administration.

He keeps the village accounts, all records of rights and the village registers, submitting daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly returns to the *tahsils*, concerning the revenue work of the village.

All payments of the revenue demand or of arrears collected by the *shahna* are brought to the *patwari* who enters them in his accounts and then sends the money on to the *tahsil* for deposit.

The *chaukidar* is also an important personage, who looks after the people of a village, keeps watch and ward and reports unusual occurrences to the *sazāwal* (inspector of police). The system of village autonomy or self-Government appears to have almost entirely died out.

The people have in great measure rejected the old *panchayat* system, and now resort to the regular courts for the settlement of almost all disputes.

The old system is now mainly confined to caste cases affecting the violation of caste rules, cases of simple hurt and of trifling transactions.

### Section II.—Law and Justice.

#### (TABLES XVI AND XVII.)

##### Early days.

In former days no regular system of administering justice existed. In most cases the ruler's will was law. The *Mitakshara* served as a guide for the determination of most cases. Punishment was almost limited to the infliction of fines, even in cases of murder where higher castes were concerned; banishment was occasionally resorted to. Written records of proceedings were not regularly enforced, though they were not unusual in cases of heinous offence.

##### Present system.

In 1863 Colonel Thompson when Superintendent of the State, introduced the system of keeping regular written records.

A regular system of law and justice was introduced in 1863 by Colonel Thompson, but on the resumption of control by the Chief it practically vanished until the State again came under superintendence in 1880. The principles followed in British law were then adopted in framing the system still in vogue.

##### Legislation.

No special legislative body exists, the Chief issuing orders and circulars through the *madār-ul-mulkām*, which have the force of law. The Indian Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes have been introduced and other British Indian laws are

followed as guides including the Evidence Act, and Civil Procedure Code. Local Rules for the Registration of documents have been recently adopted.

The lowest courts in the State are those of the *tahsildārs* of *parganas* who are magistrates of the third class. The *kotkāl* of Charkhāri town is invested with similar powers.

In civil suits the *tahsildārs* can entertain suits in which the value of the property does not exceed Rs. 500 in value.

The next court is that of the *nāzim* who is a magistrate of the first class and also hears first appeals from the subordinate courts.

His civil powers extend to suits not exceeding Rs. 5,000 in value.

The court of the *madār-ul-muham* deals with matters connected with the Bundelkhand Agency and other Native States and British Districts.

The Chief sitting in *Hazūr Darbār* hears all Sessions cases. The present Chief has been granted plenary criminal powers by a *sanad* given in 1902, with the proviso, however, that all sentences of death are required to be submitted to the Agent to the Governor-General for confirmation and those of imprisonment or transportation for life are required to be submitted periodically to the Political Agent in Bundelkhand.

All extradition is effected under the Extradition Act of 1903. The "Wylie Rules" govern inter statal surrenders except to the Indore State, a special arrangement having been made with that Darbār.

The average value of property litigated on is 8,000 rupees a year.

In civil suits for movable property a fee is charged at 6 per cent. on the value of the property ; on immovable property at 10 per cent. ; on loan bonds and title deeds a registration fee is levied at one per cent. ; on certificates of inheritance at Re. 1-5 on every hundred rupees.

The oaths used in the British courts are employed in the State courts.

### Section III.—Finance.

No budget was formerly drawn up and different heads of revenue and expenditure were not carefully separated. In 1863 when Colonel Thompson was appointed as Superintendent of the State, he introduced a regular system of keeping accounts, which, however, fell into disuse, but was revived again in 1880.

Courts.

Extradition.

Litigation  
and fees.

Oaths.

System.

The budget system then introduced is still followed.

All sums collected in the *parganas* are paid in to the *tahsildārs* who forward them on to headquarters. Accounts are checked in the *mal* office and at the State Treasury.

Sources of Revenue and Expenditure.

The total normal revenue of the State is about 5 lakhs of rupees, of which 4 lakhs are derived from land revenue. The principal heads of expenditure are general administration and Chiefs establishment 1·46 lakh ; military Rs. 76,000 ; collection of land revenue Rs. 37,000.

Financial position.

The financial status is good. A lakh of rupees has been invested in Government paper and the State has no debts, while the revenue is collected without difficulty.

Coinage.

In former days two kinds of silver coin were in use in the State. One called the *Srinagarī*, and the other the *Rājāshāhī* or *Charkhārī sikka*.

The former used to be imported from Rāth in Hamīrpur District, 14 miles north of Charkhārī. The latter coin was struck in the State mint at the capital town.

The copper coins known as *Bālāshāhī paisa*, were then in use.

These coins continued in circulation till 1864 A. D. when Tāntia Sāhib Gore, then Superintendent of the State, introduced the British currency.

In 1880 when the State came under the British management, the former coins were entirely replaced by British coin.

#### Section IV.—Land Revenue.

All land is solely the property of the Darbār, and the payments by cultivators are thus revenue.

The land revenue is collected in two ways. By the *thela* or farm system: a village is assessed and then made over to a farmer called the *nambardār* who pays in the assessed revenues, less 8 per cent., which he receives as commission called *mazrai*.

The *nambardār* is solely responsible for the full payment of the assessed revenue. He is unable to alter the assessment or collect more than the amount fixed for his village. Villages are usually farmed for about 7 years at a time. The petty lease-holders attached to the *nambardār* retain the same rights and claims on the land as those living in villages under the direct management of the State.



Remission  
and Suspen-  
sion.

In the famine of 1896-97 when the crops failed entirely the State had to suspend the demand for land revenue, and also remitted Rs. 35,000 of the arrears, while suspending the rest.

Rates.

The rates levied *per bigha* on different kinds of soil are as below :—

		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
<i>Mār</i>	...	2 5 0	
<i>Kābar</i>	...	2 0 0	
<i>Rānkar-motī</i>	...	2 0 0	
<i>Parua</i> (1st class)	...	2 5 0	
<i>Parua</i> (2nd class)	...	1 8 0	and 1 6 0
<i>Kherau</i>	...	2 5 0	" 3 0 0
<i>Kachhār</i>	...	2 5 0	" 1 8 0
<i>Rānkar-patī</i>	...	1 4 0	

All revenue is paid according to the quality of the soil without any consideration of the crops, which may grow on it.

#### Section V.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

The chief sources of miscellaneous revenue are Excise, Customs and Judicial Stamps. No special establishment is maintained, the revenue officials supervise all arrangements.

Opium and  
Drugs.

Very little poppy and practically no hemp is cultivated in the State. The opium produced locally is all bought by the Darbār who retail it. As this is insufficient opium, *bhang* and *gāñja* are imported on licenses granted by the Political Agent. About 16 maunds of opium, 80 of *gāñja* and 10 of *bhang* are imported yearly. The income derived is about Rs. 2,700 a year.

Liquor.

Country liquor distilled from flowers of the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*) are used. This is made by contractors, the licenses being granted on the outstill system.

Contracts are given yearly for each village circle, the right to distillation and vend being vested in the same contractor.

About 100 shops have been opened or one to every 7 miles and 1,210 persons.

The income derived from this source is about Rs. 5,000 a year.

Customs.

Duty is levied on articles and sundry articles, such as sugar, *ghī*, leather, ropes, metal, poles, wood, etc., at rates varying from annas ten to  $\frac{1}{4}$  pie. On some articles it is levied per cent. or per rupee *ad valorem*, on others per maund or per bullock cart as the case

may be. The duty is levied when the articles are sold or declared by the owners to be retained for sale in the State. No duty is levied on exports or imports. The average annual revenue from customs is Rs. 1,022.

The State has its own judicial and postage stamps which are used within State limits. The average revenue from judicial stamps is Rs. 2,600.

Stamps.

There is no real demand for postage stamps in the State, the sale of these stamps to foreigners contributing more revenue than the local demand.

#### Section VI.—Public Works.

The State Public Works department is in charge of an overseer, with an assistant and a number of artisans, carpenters, blacksmiths, masons, etc., and the like. No works of importance, except the construction of roads, have been taken in hand in the last 20 years. The average annual expenditure is about Rs. 20,000.

#### Section VII.—Army.

(TABLE XXV.)

The State forces contain both cavalry (sowars) and foot (*piādu*). The cavalry number 29 and the infantry 181. There are also 24 serviceable guns in charge of 85 gunners. These constitute the regulars and act as bodyguard to the Chief, and as sentries on the palace, etc. Recruits are drawn from among the Thākurs (Rājputs), Brāhmans, Daowas (Ahirs), Gusains, Khangārs and Muhammadans.

The pay of a sepoy is Rs. 4 a month and of a sowar Rs. 18 a month.

#### Section VIII.—Police and Jails.

(TABLES XXIV AND XXVI.)

A police force was first organised by the present Chief. The police force is of two classes; one being the police force in the capital town under the *kotwāl*, and the other in the districts under the *sazāwals* who are subordinate to the *tahsildārs*.

Police.

The town force is managed by the *kotwāl* who is a 3rd class magistrate. It is composed of the *barkandārs* (constables) and *chaukidārs*. The rural police consist of *chaukidārs*. Both these forces are under the direct superior control of the *nāzim* at Charkhari. Appointments, changes and promotions in the forces are made by the *kotwāl* or *sazāwals*, subject to the approval of the *nāzim* and the Darbār.

The town and rural police consist of 401 men of all grades. There is no system of training either before entering the police or afterwards. Men for the regular police force are recruited from among Hindus and Muhammadans.

The rural police are composed mainly of the aboriginal Khangār and Arikhi classes and of Basors.

The regular police carry batons, the rest *lāthīs* (quarter-staffs).

**Finger impression.** A man has been trained at Indoro in the recording and classification of finger impressions.

**Jails (Table XXVI).** There is one jail, situated in Charkhārī town which was re-built in 1882, and three district lock-ups, at the headquarters of each *pargana*.

#### Section IX.—Education.

##### (TABLE XXIII.)

Six regular schools are maintained by the State. At Charkhārī there is a High School for boys, and a school for girls, an industrial school for the encouragement of local industries being also maintained there. Besides these, four district schools are kept up at Isānagar, Chandla, Mahewa and Rewai.

In the High School English, Sanskrit, Persian, Urdu and Hindi are taught. English is taught up to the Entrance Standard of the Allahābād University and scholarships are awarded to those who pass. The daily average attendance of scholars is 180 and the number on the roll 200.

In Sanskrit the boys are sent up for the various *parikshās* (examinations) at the Benāres College. In the *pargana* schools only Hindi and Urdu are taught. The schools are under the supervision of the head master of the High School. Besides the above schools there is also one Vaidic school in Charkhārī town in which Sanskrit and religious instruction is imparted. In the girls' school in Charkhārī town Hindi and Urdu are taught besides needle work. A boarding house called the "Jubilee Boarding House" is attached to the High School.

The total cost of education is about Rs. 7,000 a year. No fees of any kind are charged.

**Printing Press and Library.** A small printing press has been started, and two small libraries known as the Palace and Students Libraries, have been set on foot.

#### Section X.—Medical.

##### (TABLE XXVII.)

A hospital was opened in Charkhārī in 1868. It is in charge of an Assistant Surgeon. The average yearly number treated is 13,000, the attendance of out-door patients being

about 150 and in-door 10 daily. Twenty beds are maintained for males and 20 for females. The average number of operations done is about 600 a year.

The hospital is entirely supported by the State. In the *pargana* the people are treated by native *raids* and *hakīms*, but they always resort to the State hospital for treatment in serious cases and for operations. The expenditure is about Rs. 3,000 a year.

The State maintains vaccinators, both Hindu and Musalman. In the cold weather these men are sent out in the *parganas*. The benefits of vaccination are now well understood. In 1906-07, 3,563 persons were treated, 3,156 cases being successful.

Vaccination.

#### Section XI.—Surveys.

A plane table survey of the three *parganas* was made in 1881. There are no special arrangements for teaching surveying to the *patwāris*.

Survey.

**CHAPTER IV.**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS**  
**AND**  
**GAZETTEER.**

The State is, for administrative purposes, divided into four *parganas*, for which the leading statistics are given below :—

Serial Number.	Name of Pargana.	AREA IN		NUMBER OF		Population (1901).	CULTIVATED AREA.		REVENUE.	
		Square miles.	Acre.	Towns.	Villages.		Total.	Irrigated.	Total.	Income derived from land.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Bāwan-Chaurāsi	..	201	128,500	1	75	33,306	52,200	600	162,700 150,600
2	Isānagar	..	91	58,000	..	75	29,021	26,000	7,800	46,100 41,000
3	Rānipur	..	56	35,700	..	27	2,155	2,000	200	2,400 2,300
4	Satwāra	..	415	263,700	..	310	61,102	81,300	8,400	239,200 215,000
TOTAL ..		(a)	763	458,500	1	604	123,951	172,100	16,500	450,700 403,000

**Bāwan-Chaurāsi Pargana :**—This *pargana* lies round the chief town. It has an area of about 201 square miles. There were originally two *parganas* of Bāwan, fifty-two, and Chaurāsi, eighty-four, villages which were afterwards amalgamated. It is bounded on the north, south and west by Hamīrpur District of the United Provinces and on the east by that of Bānda.

The land is generally speaking a level plain, and no rivers of importance traverse the *pargana*, the Arjun and Barmen, two tributaries of the Ken, being its only streams. The average rainfall is 45 inches.

Population was, in 1901, 38,306 persons ; males 19,334, females 18,972, comprising Hindus 38,031 or 91 per cent., Jains 9, Musalmāns 250 or 8 per cent., and Animists 16. Occupied houses 7,833.

The chief town and 75 villages are situated in the *pargana*.

(a) The total area of 879·89 square miles reported while the printing was going on is distributed thus :—Bāwan-Chaurāsi 198·42 square miles, Isānagar 90·52, Rānipur 183·23, and Satwāra 407·72.

In 1866 the State ceded to the British Government the *parganas* of Fatehpur, Hirāpur and Mariadov receiving in exchange villages giving a revenue of Rs. 29,525, which are included in this *pargana*.

The general character of the land is the same throughout the *pargana*. For the most part it is fertile and bears good crops, but owing to insufficient rains of late years much land that used to be cultivated is lying fallow.

Of the total area of 128,500 acres, 52,200 are cultivated, of which 600 are irrigated. The jungles cover 4,000 acres ; cultivable but uncultivated land amounts to 60,000 acres.

There are two shooting preserves in this *pargana*, one called the *Bara Ramna* and the other the *Chhota Ramna*. Each *ramna* is in charge of a *hilledār* and a staff of rangers who watch the forest and collect dues. In the *Bara Ramna* the Chief has a shooting box, and several shooting towers have been erected.

The metalled roads from Charkhāri to Mahoba (10 miles) and Chandla (9 miles) traverse the *pargana*.

There is a combined British Post and Telegraph Office at Charkhāri town. There is also a State post office at the capital.

The *pargana* is in charge of a *tahsildār* who is the chief revenue officer and a third class magistrate, being also empowered to hear civil suits up to the value of Rs. 500. The *tahsildār* is assisted by *kānungos*, *patwāris*, and the usual clerical establishment.

The police work is done by a *sazāwal* acting under the *tahsildār's* orders.

The land revenue of the *pargana* is 1·5 lakh. Except the chief town there are no villages of importance.

**Isānagar Pargana** :—The *pargana* is isolated from the main block of territory and lies on the Dhasān river west of Chhatarpur.

It is locally known as Khatola, the Khatola dialect spoken here being a variety of Bundelkhandi. It has an area of about 91 square miles. It is named after the headquarters.

The *pargana* is bounded on the north by the Nowgong Cantonment, on the east by the Chhatarpur State, on the south by the Bijāwar and Pannā States and on the west by the Orchhā State and the Dhasān river.

The Dhasān is the only large river in the *pargana*. It flows along the western border for about 9 miles. The Urmal,

a tributary of the Ken, is of some local importance. Two tanks of importance are situated at Isānagar and Salaiya. The average rainfall is 30 inches.

Population was, in 1901, 22,021 persons; males 11,347, females 10,674. Hindus numbered 21,274 or 97 per cent., Jains 276, Musalmāns 372 and Animists 99, living in 73 villages of 4,079 occupied houses. The land is of only moderate fertility growing *kharif* crops principally, only a small area being suited to *rabi*. Of the total area (58,600 acres) 26,000 acres are normally cultivated, 16,700 acres comprise cultivable soil lying fallow, and 4,000 acres are covered by jungles. Of the cultivated area 7,300 acres are irrigated, 2,000 from tanks and 5,300 from wells.

In 1902 A. D. in the month of March, a great and special fair, the *Rath-yātra*, was celebrated by a Jain of Digambari sect in the village of Mahewa and was attended by about fifteen thousand persons.

Markets are held once a week in the villages of Isānagar, Mahewa and Achāt, in which tobacco, sugar, cloths (fine and rough) and spices are chiefly sold.

A State branch post office is located at the headquarters of the *pargana*.

The *tahsildār* is as usual the chief revenue and judicial officer of the *pargana* and is assisted by the usual staff.

A small lock-up is situated at Isānagar in which prisoners of short terms of imprisonment are kept. Two Hindi schools have been opened in the *pargana*, one at Isānagar and the other at Mahewa, about ten miles from Isānagar.

The total land revenue is about Rs. 41,000.

**Rānipūr Pargana** :—This is the least important of the four *parganas* having an area of about 56 square miles. It is isolated from the rest of the State being situated about 60 miles east of the Charkhāri town, the headquarters being at Rānipur. The *pargana* is bounded on the north and east by the Ajaigarh state and on the south and west by Pannā state. The district is much cut up by ravines locally called *seha*, the slopes of which are often most picturesquely clothed with bamboo and teak. The soil of this *pargana* is uneven and rocky as it lies mainly on an elevated ridge or *ghātī*.

The only streams of importance are the Bago and Gugaina, which flow throughout the year but are of no use for irrigation.

The climate is unhealthy, the water being especially injurious, being of a black colour with an oily film floating on it. The average rainfall is 40 inches.

Population was (1901) 2,135 persons; males 1,094, females 1,041, comprising Hindus 2,000 or 94 per cent., Jains 13, Musalmāns 46 and Animists 76. The *pargana* contains 27 villages with 497 occupied houses.

Of the total area (35,700 acres) 2,600 only are cultivated, 5,000 are covered with forest and 18,600 are culturable but lying fallow.

In a few of the villages diamond mines exist, which are worked either by the State or by private persons. Private workers pay  $\frac{1}{4}$  the value of any stone found.

The principal export is *ghī* which is carried to Satna, whence spices, piece-goods and necessaries are imported in exchange.

There is a branch State post office at Rāulpur. The *pargana* is in charge of a *tahsildār* assisted by the usual staff. He is a third class magistrate and is empowered to entertain civil suits up to Rs. 500 in value. Revenue is in part paid also according to the *küt-bhāg*, a twentieth part of the outturn being taken. Total land revenue of the *pargana* is Rs. 2,300.

**Satwāra Pargana:**—This is the most important of the four *parganas* having an area of about 414 square miles.

It is bounded on the north and east by the Bānda District, on the south by the Ajaigarh state and on the west by the Chhatarpur state. The Ken is the only large river in the *pargana*. It supplies water to the inhabitants of 16 villages, flowing through the district for about thirty miles. The Kel, a tributary of the Ken, and the Kusūgar are streams of local importance. The *pargana* also contains 161 tanks, the most important being that at Badaura Kalān which irrigates 125 acres.

The average rainfall is 34 inches.

Population was, in 1901, 61,492 persons; males 30,993, females 30,491. Hindus numbered 59,702 or 97 per cent., Jains 37, Musalmāns 1,174 or 2 per cent., and Animists 579, living in 329 villages with 11,553 occupied houses.

The soil of the *pargana* is fertile. Of the total area of 265,700 acres, 91,300 are cultivated, 8,400 being irrigated, 600 from wells and 200 from tanks. The culturable but uncultivated area amounts to 137,000 acres.

Three markets are held every week in the *pargana* at Bairāgarh on Friday, at Sarwai on Monday and at Chandla, the headquarters of the *pargana*, on Wednesday.

The principal exports are cotton, *tillū*, *ghī* and linseed, while sugar, salt, piece-goods, metals, such as iron, brass, copper and kerosine oil are the chief imports. The goods are taken to and imported from Mahoba and Bānda.

The metalled road from Chandla to Charkhārī *via* Mahoba traverses the *pargana*.

People are conveyed across the Ken in small country boats or *dongas* by men of the Kewat caste who acquire the ferry rights on leases. The lease yields an average income of Rs. 100 per year.

A branch State post office is located at Chandla. The *pargana* is in charge of a *tahsildār* who is a third class magistrate and has civil and revenue powers to hear suits up to the value of Rs. 500. The *pargana* being the largest is subdivided into three circles, each under a *sacācīlāl*. The revenue amounts to about 2 lakhs. A primary school is situated at Chandla.

#### GAZETTEER.

**Chandla, pargana Satwāra.**—Headquarters of the *pargana* situated on a metalled road, 9 miles from Lauri in Chhatarpur State, in 25° 4' N.; and 80° 15' E. Population (1901) was 1,648; males 841, females 807, of whom 1,546 were Hindus. A State post office, a school, a lock-up and the *tahsīl* offices are located in it.

**Charkhārī, pargana Būwan-Chaurāsi.**—The chief town is situated at 25° 24' N., and 79° 48' E.

It is popularly supposed to have taken its name from the large number of hyenas (*charkharas*) formerly found there. A common local name for the town is "Mahārājnagar." The town is very picturesquely situated at the foot of a hill called the Ranjita pahār which rises abruptly from the plain to a height of 300 feet. Upon it stands the fort of Mangalgārh reached by a long flight of steps cut in the hill-side. Three large lakes lie at the foot of the hill on one of which stands the State guest house. The town is surrounded with good roads bordered with trees.

The main streets are wide and in point of cleanliness the town compares favourably with most towns.

The town rose in importance after 1,761, when Rājā Khumān Singh made it the capital of his state, and is now

a considerable trade centre. The population of the town was in 1881, 13,196; 1891, 13,068; 1901, 11,718; males 5,767, females 5,951. Classified by religions there were 9,035 or 79 per cent. Hindus, and 2,683 or 2 per cent. Musalmāns. Of this population 9 per cent. males and 0·9 females were literate. There are no buildings of any importance except the old fort, the modern palace and the guest house situated on the lake.

A large weekly market is held every Sunday at Rainpur village, about a mile from the town.

Since the opening of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway and the construction of the metalled road to Mahoba station trade has increased considerably.

Messrs. Ralli Brothers have established an Agency in the town.

Strictly speaking, there are no manufacturing industries in the town, except at the State industrial school where *kālins*, carpets, rings, *dariś*, turbans, gold-edged *dupattas* (called *selas* and *mandils*), *charkhāas*, *lungīs*, *dusūls*, *neicūrs*, ropes, etc., are made. The school gets its cotton, raw materials, and gold thread from Agra, and other places and manufactures them into the above articles. The school has also a carpenter's shop where furniture such as tables, chairs, beds, boxes, etc., are made. The school is maintained by the State and is in charge of a superintendent. Of religious edifices the most important are the *Bihārī-ju-ka-derala* and *Bakhat-Bihārī-ju-ka-derala*. The first was built by Mahārājā Khumān Singh, the first Rājā of Charkhārī, and the other by the Mahārānt of Ratan Singh, about 40 years ago. Two temples stand in the town, one is called *Wasudera-ka-derala* and the other *Gopāla-ju-ka-derala*, the former is an old temple. The *Gopāla-ju-ka-derala* was built by private individuals. This temple is the most frequented one in the town.

Two modern temples of importance exist, one in Rainpur close to Charkhārī and the other in the market of the town. The former was built in 1890 by Rao Bahādur Diwān Jujhār Singh Ju Dev, C. I. E., the *Mālīr-ul-muhibām* of the State, and it is called *Gumān-Bihārī-ju-ka-derala*. The other temple belongs to a merchant of the State and was built in 1874. Attached to this temple is a building, which serves more or less as a *dharamshāla* to travellers.

A hospital, a boys' school, a girls' school, a guest house, a dāk bungalow and *dharamshāla* stand in the town.

No municipality exists in the town but arrangements for sanitation are made by the Darbār and are supervised by the

*kotwāl* of the town. The police force set apart for the protection of the town consists of 66 men under a police inspector.

**Isānagar, pargana Isānagar.**—Headquarters of the *pargana* situated in 24° 54' N., and 79° 24' E.

Population (1901) was 1,643 ; males 837, females 806, of whom 1,423 were Hindus ; occupied houses 336. The name Isānagar is said to be a contraction of Ishwarnagar. Originally the place was known as *Badaura-ka-tāl*, a corruption of *Baid-ka-tāl* or the physician's lake, being so named in honour of a *baid* who cured a local chief. In honour of his cure a temple was afterwards erected on the lake and the place then became known as Ishwarnagar, corrupted later to Isānagar.

**Mahewa, pargana Isānagar.**—A village situated in 24° 59' N., and 79° 33' E., 35 miles south-west of Charkhāri. Population was (1901) 1,310; males 644, females 666 ; occupied houses 293.

The *chhatri* of Mahārājā Chhatarsāl of Pannū stands on a small hill, 1½ mile from the village. It is in bad order, never having been completed. This and a small *chhatri* close by are looked after by Dhāmis.<sup>1</sup> Several Chiefs have now subscribed to have the large *chhatri* repaired.

A Hindi school is situated in the village.

**Rānīpur, pargana Rānīpur.**—The headquarters of the *pargana* situated in 24° 46' N., and 80° 18' E.

It has a population (1901) of 139; males 73, females 66, of whom 96 were Hindus. A State post office, a lock-up, a police *thāna* and the *tahsil* offices are situated here.

1. Dhāmis are followers of the local sect of Prān Nāth at Pannū.

**SUNNUD or GRANT of the undermentioned DISTRICTS  
and VILLAGES of the HONOURABLE the  
EAST INDIA COMPANY to MAHARAJAH  
BEEKUR MAJEET BEJY  
BUHADUR—1804.**

Whereas the province of Bundelcund has lately been annexed to the territories and possessions of the British Government in India, and the British troops are now employed in the punishment and suppression of the disaffected and turbulent in this province; and whereas Maharajah Beckur Majeet Bejy Buhadur, who is one of the ancient and rightful possessors of a portion of territory in Bundelcund, having sincerely professed his submission and obedience to the Government of the Honourable Company, has entered into and transmitted to the British Government, under his signature and seal, a written obligation of allegiance and fidelity, consisting of seven distinct Articles, by all which he is bound to abide: Therefore and with a view to the protection and security of the ancient rights and possessions of the Native Chiefs of this country, which it is the just and benevolent principle of the British Government in India uniformly to support and protect, the undermentioned talookas or mehals with the villages and small fortresses belonging to them, yielding a gross revenue of four lakhs, four hundred and eighty-eight Rupees, which were formerly held by the ancestors of Maharajah Beckur Majeet Bejy Buhadur, and are now in his possession, are granted and secured to him, and to his heirs and successors, to be held under the British Government on the terms and conditions which are specified in his obligation of allegiance; and it is hereby stipulated and agreed that so long as Raja Bejy Buhadur shall strictly adhere to the terms of his obligation, and shall practise implicit submission and obedience to the will of the British Government, he shall not be molested in the possession of the undermentioned talookas and forts.

*2nd September 1804.*

**TRANSLATION of a SUNNUD granted to RAJAH BEJY  
BAHADUR, RAJAH of CHIRKARI.**

*Dated 25th March 1811.*

Be it known to the chowdries, kanoongoes, etc., of the pergunnahs of Raath and Sewndah and Katolla, etc., in the province of Bundelkhand; that Whereas the Rajah Becker Majeet

Bejy Bahadur, one of the ancient and hereditary Chiefs of Bundelcund, on the annexation of the province of Bundelkhand to the dominions of the British Government, was the first of the Boondellah Chiefs, who submitted and acknowledged the authority of that Government, and during the agency of Captain John Baillie, the former Agent to the Governor-General, delivered in an Ikrarnamah (or obligation of allegiance) to the British Government, and received a Sunnud for the villages and lands in his possession, and has from that period remained firm and faithful to every Article of his engagement, and in no instance deviated or swerved from that obedience, loyalty, and attachment due to the British Government; several villages belonging to the share and possessions of the said Rajah, that were then in the possession of unjust claimants, and the right to which at that period had not been investigated, remained in the hands of those unjust claimants, and were not included in the Sunnud before mentioned; on account of the above described villages, which were not included as stated in the said Sunnud, disputes and quarrels existed, and half of the talook of Kurelah, which was inserted in the Sunnud received from Captain J. Baillie by the said Rajah, was resumed by the British Government along with the jaidad of the Rajah Himmut Bahadur. During the agency of Mr. John Richardson, Agent to the Governor-General, after minute investigation, the said Rajah was put in possession of the villages and lands withheld from him by several unjust claimants, and the Rajah aforesaid received a deduction from the revenues of the tuppah of Chandellah in lieu of the half share of Kurelah; and the disputes and claims that existed between the said Rajah and the other Chiefs of Bundelennd have been all adjusted. This being the case, a rectified Sunnud and an Ikrarnamah being thought necessary, the said Rajah has accordingly, at this period, delivered in an Ikrarnamah, containing eleven distinct Articles, and required a Sunnud for the villages and lands now in his possession. Therefore the villages and lands enumerated in the subjoined schedule are granted to the said Rajah and his heirs, with all their rights and usages, their land revenue and sayer, forts and fortifications, exempt from the payment of revenue to the British Government in perpetuity. So long as the said Rajah and his heirs and successors shall observe and remain faithful to the several articles of the Ikrarnamah that he has delivered in, no molestation or resumption of the possessions hereby granted shall take place on the part of the British Government. It is necessary that you all consider and account the said Rajah the Lord and Proprietor of the possessions in question; and the conduct that is incumbent on the said Rajah, is to exert himself to the utmost to increase the cultivation, and

to improve his possessions by promoting the prosperity and comfort of the inhabitants, and to enjoy the produce of his good governance in obedience and loyal attachment to the British Government.

Ratified by the Honourable the Vice-President of the Council of India on the 19th April 1811.

---

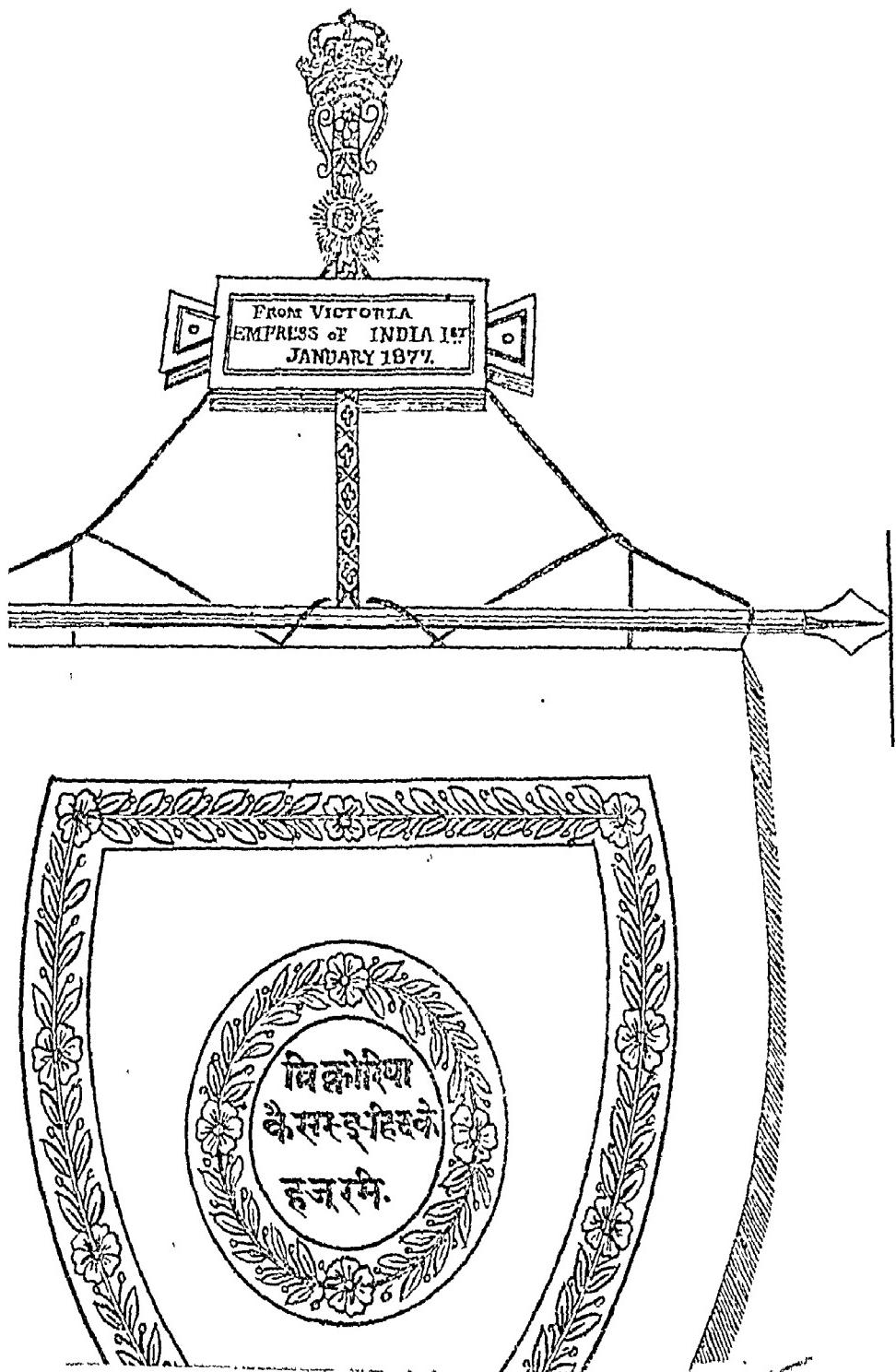




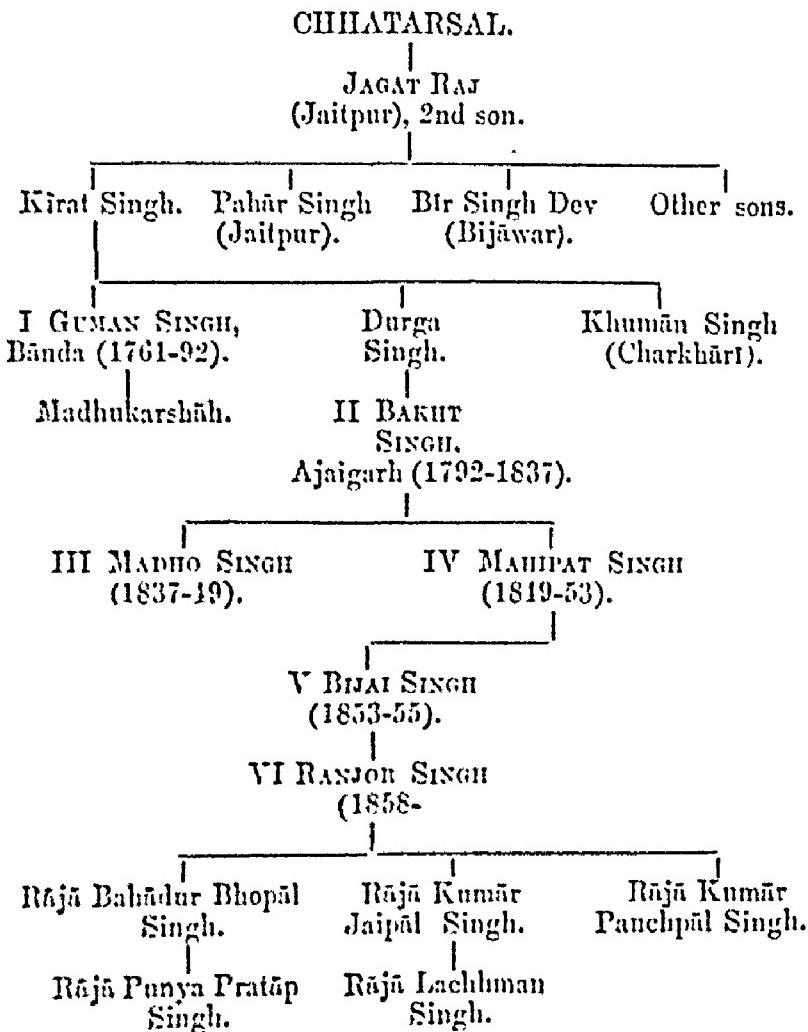
AJAIGARH STATE.







GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE AJAIGARH FAMILY.





## CHAPTER I. DESCRIPTIVE.

### Section I.—Physical Aspects.

The Ajaigarh State is composed of two tracts, one surrounding the chief town, the other lying to the south of it near Maihar. The former tract, which has an area of about 253 square miles, lies between  $24^{\circ} 45'$  and  $25^{\circ} 2'$  N., and  $80^{\circ} 4'$  and  $80^{\circ} 32'$  E., the southern tract with an area of 513 between  $24^{\circ} 4'$  and  $24^{\circ} 45'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 56'$  and  $80^{\circ} 38'$  E., giving a total area of 771 square miles.

Situation  
and Area.

The name is undoubtedly a variant of *Jaya-durga* or *Jaya-pura-durga*, "the fort of the city of victory," a name used in inscriptions on the fort itself, while the modern name of Ajaigarh is never met with. Popular tradition, however, required a more romantic derivation and the following tale, admittedly a modern invention, is current everywhere:—

Origin and  
meaning of  
name.

There was once a pious devotee of the name of Ajaipāl who took up his residence on this hill, then called Kedār Parvat, and became famous for his miracles. Ajaipāl was the younger brother of Tāra Singh of Ajmer, who built the fort of Tārāgarh. Ajaipāl was a great magician. On one occasion a magician, Khwāja Mautaddīn, came to Ajmer and a contest in their art took place, in which the Muhammadan was defeated. Tāra Singh was displeased with Ajaipāl for shaming the Khwāja, and Ajaipāl, therefore, retired to this fort, which was already extant, and resided there, practising devotion after the manner of the old Rishis.

The State is, generally speaking, bounded on the north by the Bānda District of the United Provinces, on the south by the Damoh and Jabalpur Districts of the Central Provinces, on the east by the Pannā and Rewah States and on the west by the States of Charkhārī and Chhatarpur. Between the two tracts lies a portion of Pannā State.

Boundaries.

The whole State may be said to lie in the heart of the Pannā range, the branch of the Vindhya, which stretches diagonally across Bundelkhand from south-west to north-east. The country is clothed with heavy forest and during the rains and cold season is most picturesque, its hill-sides being covered with teak and *tendū*, its valleys filled with small trees and brushwood and traversed by numerous streams. An uninterrupted succession of hill and valley meet the eye in every direction.

NATURAL  
DIVISIONS  
AND SCENERY,

Although, generally speaking, the whole State lies in the hilly tract, it is customary to make some local distinctions. This classification gives two natural divisions, the *Tarāhati Vindhya-chal* or skirts of the Vindhya, the more or less level country at the foot of the hills, and the *Bālāya-ghātī Vindhya-chal* or hilly region proper. This latter is subdivided again into *Kutaramālīcā*, the land in the hollows and slopes, and *Antharpathār*, the country in the hills on which the diamonds are found, and *pathār*, the small plateaus, met with on their summits. The more level *Tarāhati* section forms the principal agricultural tract in the State.

**HILLS.** The hills attain an average elevation of about 1,700 feet above sea-level, the highest points rising to 1,900.

Among the hills situated in this State, only a few are worth distinguishing. They are *kila* (fort) Ajaigarh (1,474), Bajranggarh (1,456), Dova pahār (1,469) and Murja (1,440). There are many others, but all are of less elevation.

**RIVERS.** Only two important rivers traverse the State, the Ken and its affluent the Bairma or Barmai. The Ken, which rises in the south, flows through the southern districts of the State in a general north-westerly direction for about 20 miles. It also separates some small detached portions in the northern section. Other smaller streams are the Mirhasan which separates the southern section from Pannā State and the Ranj, Bagain and Bapaira in the northern section. Diamonds are occasionally found in the sands of the Bagain from which it is known locally as the Ratan-garbhā.

**GEOLOGY.**<sup>1</sup> The largest of the numerous and widely scattered tracts constituting the State of Ajaigarh includes a considerable portion of the great alluvial spread between the Pannā and Bhānder ranges and extends over a large part of the Upper Bhānder table-land. The lower slopes of the Bhānder scarp and the outlying hills in front of it consist of Sirbū shales, while considerable outcrops of the lower Bhānder sandstone and the Bhānder limestone, and some smaller ones of the Ginnūrgarh shales rise out of the alluvium. Further north, several portions of the Pannā range, capped by Upper Rewah sandstone, and of the Bindāchal range capped by Kaimur belong to the State. The fortress of Ajaigarh stands on an outlier of Kaimur sandstone resting directly upon Bundelkhand Gneiss, in consequence of the overlap of the Upper over the Lower Vindhyan. In the Bindāchal range, south of Ajaigarh, the Lower Vindhyan intervenes between the Kaimur and the Gneiss. Several of the diamond mines in the Pannā diamond-bearing tract are situated within Ajaigarh territory. Many outlying territories belonging

---

1. By Mr. E. Vredenburg, Geological Survey of India.

to the same State are situated within the areas occupied by the Bundelkhand Gneiss and Gaugetic alluvium.

The gneiss in Ajaigarh hill is profusely injected with volcanic basic dykes of the Bijāwar period.

Near villages occur groves of mangoes, tamarinds, *pīpals* and other similar species. The forest which occurs in waste places consists of scrub and brushwood for the most part; the principal species are *Butea*, *Anogeisus*, *Diospyros*, *Boswellia* with shrubs like *Grewia*, *Zizyphus*, *Acacia*, *Woodfordia*, *Casearia*, *Phyllanthus* and *Capparis*. The herbaceous vegetation is mainly of grasses and species like *Crotalaria*, *Desmodium*, *Alysicarpus*, *Heliotropium*, *Evolvulus*, *Goniocaulon* and *Blumea*.

The wild animals in this State do not differ from those occurring elsewhere in India.

Tigers are met with occasionally, while among larger animals are bears, leopards, hyenas, wolves and jackals, among deer the sāmbar (*Cervus unicolor*), chinkāra (*Gazella bennetii*) and black buck (*Antilope cervicapra*). The present Chief is an enthusiastic sportsman and is fond of keeping trained *chitás* (*Canis jubata*) to hunt deer.

The birds require no special mention. The migratory waterfowl appear in large numbers in winter, and ground game of all kinds is plentiful.

The climate is somewhat subject to extremes of temperature, but is not unhealthy.

The average rainfall is 50 inches and no considerable difference exists in various parts of the State. A maximum fall of 78 inches was recorded in 1898 and a minimum of 10 inches in 1904.

### Section II.—History. (Genealogical Tree.)

The Ajaigarh Chiefs are Bundelā Rājputs, being descendants of Chhatarsāl, the founder of Pannā. In 1732 Chhatarsāl divided his state into several shares. One share worth 33 lakhs was given to his second son Jagat Rāj. This State of which the capital was Jaitpur (now in British India) included the present Bānda District and Ajaigarh. Jagat Rāj died in 1758. He had nominated as his successor Gūmān Singh, the son of Kīrat Singh, his eldest son, who had predeceased him.

Gūmān Singh was only a youth and his uncle Pahār Singh ignoring his father's wishes seized the *gaddi*. Gūmān Singh and his brother Khumān Singh at once collected a force and attempted to assert their rights, and unable to cope with

BOTANY. I.

FAUNA

Climate  
(Table I).Rainfall.  
(Table II).

1. By Lieutenant-Colonel D. Prain, I. M. S., *Botanical Survey of India*.

Pahār Singh, commenced a disastrous system of predatory warfare. Finally, a pitched battle took place at Sūpa in which the brothers were defeated, Pahār Singh even capturing their families. Gūmān Singh then solicited and obtained the assistance of (the well-known adviser of Shāh Alām) Najaf Khān. Najaf Khān, however, had under-estimated the strength of his adversary and was defeated by Pahār Singh at Kundāla. In about 1761 Pahār Singh fell ill and invited Gūmān Singh and his brother to visit him at Kulpahār where he was in camp. The meeting took place and Pahār Singh then assigned Gūmān Singh Bānda and Ajaigarh with a revenue of 16·25 lakhs and Khumān Singh Charkhārī with a revenue of 9·25 lakhs. Gūmān Singh styled himself Rājā of Bānda.

Gūmān Singh  
(1761-92).

Soon after his succession Gūmān Singh was attacked by a force sent by Shujā-ud-daula (1763). Calling on Rājā Hindūpat of Pannā and other chiefs to assist him, he succeeded at first in repelling the invader at Tendwārī, but dissensions arose between the Bundelās and enabled the enemy to force them to come to terms.<sup>1</sup>

In 1789-90 Himmāt Bahādūr and Ali Bahādūr commenced their campaign in Bundelkhand.

Bakht Singh  
(1792-1837).

Gūmān Singh died in 1792 and was succeeded by his nephew, Bakht Singh. In 1792 this Chief was driven out by Ali Bahādūr, who made Bānda his own headquarters. Bakht Singh was, moreover, reduced to such straits that he was obliged to throw himself on the charity of his conqueror, by whom he was allotted a subsistence allowance of a few rupees a day.

In 1800 the fort of Ajaigarh, which had long held out under its *kilādīr*, fell to Ali Bahādūr, after a regular siege of six weeks. When in 1803 the British succeeded the Marāthās in the possession of Bundelkhand, Bakht Singh represented his case and was granted a cash pension of Rs. 30,000 *Gauhar Shākī* rupees a year, until territory could be assigned to him. In 1807 he was granted a *sanad* for the Kotra and Pawai *parganas*, the pension being discontinued in 1808. The Ajaigarh fort and the surrounding country were, at this time, in the hands of one Lachhman Daowa, a noted freebooter. Lachhman Daowa at once proposed terms to the British authorities and as it was important to pacify the country, he was allowed to continue in possession on the conditions of allegiance, the payment of a tribute of Rs. 4,000 a year and the surrender of the fort, after two years. His entire disregard of these conditions and his persistent turbulence made it necessary to resort to force and the fort was taken after a severe fight by Colonel Martindell in 1809. A large portion of Lachhman Daowa's possessions was then added to

<sup>1</sup>. E. M. II., VIII, 215, 216.



Mahewa *tahsil*. Inscriptions are said to exist at some of these places.

**Section III.—Population.  
(TABLES III AND IV.)**

**Enumerations.**

Three enumerations have taken place giving : 1881, 81,454; 1891, 93,048 ; 1901, 78,236 ; males 39,454, females 38,782. Density 102 persons per square mile; a fall of 16 per cent, thus took place in the last decade.

**Towns and Villages.**

The State contains no towns but 488 villages, of which Ajaigarh is the largest with a population of 4,216 persons. Of the rest 462 have a population of under 500; 21 of between 500 and 1,000; and 4 of between 1,000 and 4,000.

**Religions.**

Classified by religions there were 70,360 or 89 per cent. Hindus, 500 Jains, 2,314 or 3 per cent. Musalmāns and 5,062 or 6 per cent. Animists.

**Language and Literacy.**

The prevailing form of speech is Bundelkhandi, spoken by 90 per cent. of the people. The literate persons number 1,253 or 2 per cent,

**Castes.**

The prevailing castes are Brāhmans 11,120 or 14 per cent., Chamārs 9,199 or 12 per cent., Bundelā Thākurs, Rājputs and Chhatriis 4,900, Kāchhis 4,812, Lodhis 4,573 and Ahirs 4,477 or 6 per cent., and Kurnils 3,734 or 5 per cent. Among Animists Gonds form 4 per cent.

**Occupations.**

Agriculture and general labour employ 32,579 or 43 per cent., and State service 3,168 or 4 per cent.

**SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS.**

Dress. The dress of a man usually consists of a *dhotī*, *angarkha*, *kurta*, *sāfa* and the well known Bundelkhandi *jutī*, while that of a woman a *dhotī*, which covers the entire body from head to foot.

**Food.**

The poorer classes live mainly on *kukki* (*Panicum miliare*), *rāmān* (*P. frumentaceum*), *kākun* (*Setaria italica*) and the fruits of the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*).

The rich eat wheat, rice, gram and fruits : a few only eat flesh.

Houses are mostly of mud and thatched or tiled.

Marriage. Marriage ceremonials are the same as those observed in other parts of India.

**Holidays.**

The holidays observed are the *Dasahra*, *Diwāli* and *Holi*.

**Public Health.**

Public health has been uniformly good, no epidemics having visited the population,

## CHAPTER II.

### ECONOMIC.

(TABLES VII TO XV AND XXVIII TO XXX.)

#### Section I.—Agriculture.

(TABLES VII TO X.)

The greater part of the State lying in the hills but little General conditions.  
of the soil is favourable for agriculture. The best land lies in the Zerghātī tahsil.

The soils given below are those most generally recognised:-

*Retīlī*, a red soil, containing a considerable proportion of stones and sand growing only *tīlī* and *kutkī*. *Pahādī*, a red soil full of boulders and stones bearing *tīlī* and *kodon*. *Parua*, a yellowish grey soil of soft texture suited to *urad*, *jowār*, *motha*. *Sihara*, a soil composed partly of red and partly of black soil, producing *kodon*, *tīlī*, *jowār* and gram. *Bhātan*, a rough yellow coloured stony soil which will grow most *kharif* crops. *Mār*, a soft black soil, growing wheat and linseed. *Kāwar*, a darkish brown coloured soil, containing lime which produces wheat, gram and linseed. *Binura* is the name given to soils close to human habitation, which can be easily manured with village refuse. Both *rabi* and *kharif* crops can be grown upon it, and it is capable of producing two crops in one year; the *rabi* crops, however, require irrigation. *Kachhār*, the name given to soil found near rivers, tanks or *nālas*. The silt left behind after the rains forms a natural manure, while the soil retains moisture longer than any other. *Rabi* crops can also be produced in *retīlī*, *parua*, and *sihara* soils by means of irrigation.

The total area under cultivation so far as can be ascertained is about 407 square miles or 53 per cent. Of these about 10 square miles or 6,400 acres only are irrigated. Forest covers 1.14 square miles or 19 per cent., while 141 square miles are capable of cultivation and 75 or 10 per cent. are waste land. No accurate statistics being available, these figures can only be regarded as approximate.

Two seasons are observed, the *kharif* or *siārī*, the autumnal season, when the less valuable crops are sown, and the *rabi* or *unhārī* when wheat, barley and gram are cultivated.

The field is first roughly ploughed to break the surface and admit the absorption of rain. When the rains have set in, it is thoroughly ploughed, the number of times this is done, varying with the soil and other circumstances; usually two or three ploughings are sufficient for the *kharif* sowings. It is then sown, and

Cultivated area.

Seasons.

Agricultural practice.

when the young plants appear, weeded and, if necessary, thinned out. These processes occupy from June to August. In field required for the *rabi* ploughing is continued at intervals till sufficient moisture has been absorbed. The seed is then sown in about the middle of October.

#### Reaping.

This is effected in the case of maize and *jowār* by cutting the heads off the crops with a sickle. It is not usual in this part to collect the stalks for use as *Larbi*, but if this is required to be done it is carried out subsequently. Gram is usually pulled up by the roots. This process takes place in October and November with *jowār* and other *kharif* crops and from January to March with *rabi* crops.

#### Dusasli.

There are two classes of double crop land. In one *makka* is sown in the *kharif* and followed by wheat or gram, while in the other case *rabi* crops are first sown and then vegetables. In the latter case both crops are irrigated, in the former only the second crop.

#### Mixed sowings.

It is a common practice to sow gram and *matar* together with *jowār* or wheat, while rice and *urad* are also sometimes sown with *jowār*, and *urad* with cotton. In *kūcar* soil gram and *matar* are sown with wheat, while in sandy soils or in *kachhār* they are sown with *jowār*, in *kūcar* and *binwa* soils *kodon* and *dhān* (rice) are sown with *jowār*. In yellow soil *urad* is sown with cotton.

#### Rotation.

Rotation is not very systematically followed, but when practised *tili*, *kolon*, *jowār* and *urad* are sown in succession. Then the soil is left fallow for two or three years and then sown again in the same order.

#### Manure.

Manuring is only practised on fields near villages and on special crops such as sugarcane and *pān*. Village sweepings and cattle dung are mainly used.

#### SPECIAL CROPS. Sugarcane.

Sugarcane is a very profitable crop and numerous remains of old stone crushing mills (*killo*) shew that in early days it was a regular staple product of the tract.

After the removal of the *kharif* crops, the soil is ploughed several times and then in the month of January or February cuttings of sugarcane are planted. It is irrigated till the end of the hot season and then in the month of *Asārh* (June-July) it is hoed and weeded. It reaches its full growth in about ten months, being cut in the month of December and either sold as cane, or pressed and the juice extracted. The juice is then boiled down in iron pans till it becomes viscous when it is poured on to a piece of cloth and placed in a pit of 1 or  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet square; when dry, it is taken out and cut into cakes. It is either eaten or sold as *gur*.

The principal implements which are given below are those used from time immemorial :—

*Pahata*, a clod-breaker, consisting of a beam, ten or twelve feet in length, dragged by oxen, which is used in smoothing the soil after it has been ploughed; *kusiya* or hoe; *hansiya* or sickle; *baka*, *kulhāri* or hatchet; *khurpi* or hoe; *duliyān*, a hollow bamboo, used to carry seed and hung round the neck of the sower.

The area usually sown at the *kharif* is 54,800 acres and at the *rabi* 54,400. The chief crops are at the *kharif*, *kodon* covering 20,200 acres or 8 per cent. of the total area, *jowār* 10,500 acres or 9 per cent., rice 8,400 or 7 per cent.; at the *rabi*, gram 20,600 acres or 19 per cent., wheat 14,000 or 12 per cent., and barley 5,600 or 5 per cent. The only important non-food crop is cotton covering 2,000 acres.

The grains sown at the two seasons are given below :—

*Rabi*.—Wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), *pissi* (red wheat), *jaita* or barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), *matala* (*Pisum sativum*), *chana* (*Cicer arietinum*), *masūr* (*Ervum lens*), *alsī* (*Linum usitatissimum*), *carson* (*Bra: car: indicus*).

*Kharif*.—*serobiculatum*, *kutki* (*Panicum miliare*), *sāmān* (*Panicum frumentaceum*), *madiya*, *bōjra* (*Pennisetaria spicata*), *jorcār* (*Sorghum vulgare*), *urad* (*Phaseolus radiatus*), *mūng* (*Phaseolus mungo*), *dhān* (*Oryza sativa*), *mothi* (*Phaseolus aconitifolius*), *til* (*Sesamum indicum*).

The chief oil-seeds are linseed and *carson*; while oil is also made from the *kanji* (*Pongamia glabra*) and *hūn* (*Melia azadirachta*).

Cotton is the only important fibre crop.

Many spices and vegetables are grown. Ginger, onions, cabbage, garlic, cummin, coriander, turmeric, numerous kinds of gourd, mangoes, guavas, custard apples, pomegranates are the commonest.

There has been no increase or decrease in the cultivated area. In the famine year of 1896-97 there was a temporary decrease but after a time all the original area was again taken up. The same ground is usually cultivated for three successive years and then left fallow for the same period, another piece being taken up.

The staple foods used by the people are during the rains *kākun*, *sāmān*, *basara* and maize, from October to February, rice, *kutki* and *jorcār*, from March to June, wheat, gram, *matala* and *rāhar*, *maṣūr*, *urad*, *mūng* and other pulses are eaten when the crop is ready.

The well-to-do live mainly on rice, wheat, gram and pulses, the poor on *rāhar*, *jorcār*, barley, *kodon* and *matala*. Jungle tribes use *kutki*, *kodon* and many jungle plants and fruits.

Implements.

Crop area  
sown.

Crops.

Oil-seeds.

Fibres.  
Garden pro-  
duce.

Improvement  
in cultiva-  
tion.

Staple food  
grains.

## Progress.

No new implements have been introduced, but the following new varieties of seed have been tried so far without success :—*Pahādi chana*, white coloured gram from the hills, *sāha jorār* or black *jorār*, *sāha gocharī*, also a kind of *jorār* of a black colour, which produces a sort of *gur* (like sugarcane).

## Irrigation.

Irrigation is practised mostly in the *bātāya-ghātī* tract, by means of *bāndhs*. These consist of temporary embankments raised in the rains on lowlying and sloping land so as to retain the water for some months. When dry enough, crops are sown in the soil. The crops obtained from such land are double that obtained from dry land. In the *Tarāhati* tract irrigation is carried on to some extent from wells in the case of *rabi* crops.

Water is drawn up by means of the *rahāt* or Persian wheel, or *charas*, a leather bucket lift.

In places where there are tanks, water is drawn off into the fields by means of small channels locally called *dori*.

Wheat, both *kanti* and *pissī*, and *sarson* require irrigation but not *chana*, *matar*, *masūr* or *alsī*. Sugarcane and *pān* and garden crops are also irrigated.

No survey has as yet been made in the State but the irrigated area may be roughly put at 7,299 *bighas* or 1,100 acres.

A bricked well costs from one to five hundred rupees, and a *kachcha* or earthen well from 10 to 15 rupees.

The Ken canal which takes off at Bariārpur passes through the State.

The only local breed of importance is the *keniya* reared on the banks of the Ken river which are considered very superior to any other. Buffaloes, goats and sheep are reared in most villages.

Pasture land is ample and no lack of grass is ever experienced. The cultivators do not, as a rule, use *karbi* as a supplementary cattle food.

## Section II.—Wages and Prices.

(TABLES XIII AND XIV.)

## Wages.

In villages wages are generally paid in kind. For reaping, a woman is given grain worth about 1 anna 3 pies, a man for field labour such as hoeing, sowing, &c., grain worth from 6 to 8 pice, at the time of sowing and cutting the *kharif* and *rabi* crops.

## Section III.—Forests.

The State contains three kinds of forest : (1) *Bara* or special, (2) *Ausai-daija* or ordinary and (3) *Chhota* or inferior.

The first kind consists of reserved forest and is subdivided into two classes of which the first contains the following trees :—*Mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*), *chironji* (*Buchanania latifolia*), *harra*

(*Terminalia belerica*), *rājmakor* (*Zizyphus oenoplia*), *ām* (*Mangifera indica*), *amli* (*Tamarindus indica*), *jāmun* (*Eugenia jambolana*), which bring in revenue to the State; and the second such trees as are indigenous and of which the products are commercially valuable—*sāgun* or teak (*Tectona grandis*), *shisham* (*Dalbergia sisso*), *tūn* (*Cedrela toona*), *amrus*, *bumer*, *khair* (*Acacia catechu*), *palās* (*Butea frondosa*). Lac is cultivated on the last.

The ordinary kind is divided into two classes. The first class is protected and contains *kahua* (*Terminalia arjuna*), *ghava*, *seja* (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*), *tendū* (*Diospyros tomentosa*), *varsaja*, *chilla* (*Casearia tomentata*), *bāns* (*Albizzia odoratissima*), *salai* (*Boswellia serrata*) and the second class which is opened to the public contains *kahua* of small growth and the same trees as are found in closed forests, but which are here uncared for. The third class of forests is freely used by the public and contains trees such as *ber* (*Zizyphus jujuba*), *makor* (*Z. oenoplia*), *ghaut* or *ghont* (*Z. xylopera*), *katai*, *aonla* (*Phyllanthus emblica*), *gūlar* (*Ficus glomerata*), etc.

Permission to cut ordinary trees and collect jungle produce is sold by auction yearly. The contractor then becomes responsible, and appoints his *nākādārs* to collect dues. The forest is watched by rangers appointed by the State. Any person wishing to cut timber-wood has to obtain a pass from the forest *darogha* mentioning the class and the quantity of wood to be cut.

Forests are protected from fire by burning a trace about half a chain in breadth round forest and prohibiting people from taking any fire into the forest area.

Certain *birs* or grass reserves are kept by the State.

Grass re-serves.

#### Section IV.—Mines and Minerals.

Iron mines were formerly very extensive in the State, but the competition of foreign iron has almost entirely killed the industry.

Iron.

These mines are found at several places in the Vindhya: the workings are of two kinds<sup>1</sup>:

Diamond.

A pit is dug about 15 or 20 feet in circumference and 20 to 30 deep. The hard rock met with is broken up with hammers and the yellow earth below it dug out and removed. A conglomerate lies below locally called *mudda* in which the stones are found. This *mudda* is broken up and removed. As the mines fill with water at this level the water has to be removed by means of a Persian wheel or by hand. In the last

1. A full account of those given in Panna is in Records of the Geological Survey of India, XXXII, 262.

case about 50 labourers pass *gharas* from one to another continuously and thus remove the water.

The digging is only carried on in the hot season, ceasing in the rains when the pits fill with water. The *mudda* dug out is placed on stones laid on grass and leaves, where it is crushed to about the size of a grain of gram.

A pit called a *dona* or washing pit, is then made. It is about 4 feet deep, 4 long and 3 broad. It is filled with *mudda*, and then water poured into it. This is well stirred so as to separate the mud from the gravel. The gravel is then collected in a basket and put into a second *dona*, about 1½ feet square by 1½ feet deep, in which the pieces of gravel are washed and inspected individually and the diamonds extracted by carefully crushing the matrix.

These mines are auctioned for from one to two thousand rupees a year, the contractor taking his chance of making a profit. This form of working is called *gahara khadān* or deep working.

The second class of mine is called *Chilla-ki-khadān*. These mines are used when the matrix is near the surface, and are simply shallow pits. The gravel is washed as before. These can be worked in the rains. They are sold to contractors for 20 or 30 rupees only.

#### Section V.—Arts and Manufactures.

**Cloth and blankets.** The only industries are the manufactures of coarse cloth and winter blankets, which goes on in every village of size.

#### Section VI.—Commerce and Trade.

**Exports.** Trade is not very highly developed owing to lack of communication, and commerce there is strictly speaking none.

The chief articles of export are wheat, rice, *mahuā*, flowers and fruit, especially the fruit of the *harra* and *chironji*, gum, *lac*, wax, honey, cotton, *tīl*, linseed, hemp and tobacco.

**Imports.** The chief imports are salt, sugar, *gur*, kerosine oil, poppy, seeds, cotton and silk, piece-goods, rope, wool, wheat, pulses, leather and articles of metal.

The value of exports is said to be about 1·7 lakh and of imports 2·5 lakhs.

Traffic is carried by bullock carts and pack animals.

The internal trade is very small and hardly supplies local needs.

#### Section VII.—Means of Communication.

The State is not well supplied with means of communication. No railways traverse it, the nearest point on any line being Attara station on the Jhānsi-Mānikpur section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, 28 miles by metalled road and 12 miles by unmetalled road from Ajaigarh.

The State contains 72 miles of road, 24 metalled and 48 unmetalled; of the 24 miles of metalled road only the Ajaigarh-Pannā road (7 miles) is kept up by the Darbār, the remaining metalled road being parts of the Satna-Nowgong and Satna-Nāgod roads (17 miles) kept up by Government.

Roads.

No other metalled roads yet exist but it is proposed to metal those from Ajaigarh to Kartāl Mundla, and Bariārpur and Birsingpur to Ajaigarh. The new roads from Pannā to Damoh and Marwāra which are being constructed by that Darbār will be of great service to the southern section of the State.

During the months of the monsoon season, ferries ply at several points on the Ken. The contracts for the ferries are auctioned yearly.

Ferries.

An Imperial post office has been opened in the town of Ajaigarh. No State postal system and no telegraph offices exist in the State.

Post and Telegraph.

### Section VIII.—Famine.

The only severe famine of which any record exists is that of 1896-97. Every effort was made to afford relief. The cost to the State was Rs. 1,71,600 of which 1,03,800 was spent on relief works which are both remunerative and productive and the remainder on roads, buildings and poor-houses.

Famine of 1896-97.

It is estimated that the increased revenue amounting to Rs. 21,000 or 20·1 per cent. on the outlay will be derived from these works and that 15,350 *bighas* of land have been protected against famine. The number of persons relieved on the works amounted to 14·64 per cent. of the population for a period of about 100 days. The average cost per head per day was 4·9 pice. Seven per cent. of the population was at one time or another in receipt of gratuitous relief in the poor-houses or in their homes.

## CHAPTER III.

### ADMINISTRATIVE.

( TABLES XVI TO XXVII.)

#### Section I.—Administration.

General.  
The Chief.

The Chief exercises full powers in all civil suits and general administrative matters. In criminal cases his powers are limited. The administration is conducted on the methods which were in vogue in early days. There is no regular system of administration. A *dīwān* acts as a chief executive officer receiving orders from the Chief which he carries out. A *nāzim* conducts the judicial work.

Official  
Language.

Hindi is the official language in the State in which all revenue records are kept. Urdu is used in the judicial courts and in correspondence with the Political Agent. An English department is also maintained at the headquarters.

Administrative  
Divisions.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into five *tahsils* with headquarters at Ajaigarh (Zerghāt or Huzūr *tahsil*), Bangla, Barwāra, Ganj and Malicwa.

Staff.

Each *tahsīl* is in charge of a *tahsildār* who is a judicial as well as a revenue official. He supervises the administration and is responsible that the farmers of the revenue do not oppress the cultivator.

Village  
Administration.

The *zamindār* in *khām tahsīl* villages (managed directly by the State), and the *nambardār* in farmed villages is the head of the community. He settles in conjunction with the village *panchāyat* all disputes but those of a serious nature which are reported to headquarters. The usual village servants and artisans are found in all villages of any size, the blacksmith, carpenter, barbar Chamār, the *beldār* and *chaukidār* who are all paid by a share of the village produce at each harvest, and in some cases grants of land. The *paturārī* or village accountant and record-keeper is paid by the State.

#### Section II.—Law and Justice.

( TABLES XVI AND XVII.)

Codes.

No local legislation has been carried out. The Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code are followed to a certain extent as guides. Civil suits are usually settled by arbitration through *panchāyats*.

Courts.

No regularly constituted courts exist, but certain powers are, in a general way, delegated to officials.

The *dīwān* hears serious cases and appeals.

The Chief exercises more or less the powers of a Sessions Court in British India, but all crimes of a heinous nature are dealt with by the Political Agent.

In civil suits the Chief's orders are final.

An attempt is now being made to introduce the registration of documents.

### Section III.—Finance.

#### (TABLES XVIII AND XIX.)

No budget is prepared, all accounts being kept on the indigenous system, and no accurate details are forthcoming on the subject.

The revenue of the State is 2·8 lakhs, of which 2 lakhs or 71 per cent. are derived from land, and Rs. 19,000 or 7 per cent. from tribute.

Total expenditure is 2·5 lakhs, of which Rs. 74,000 or 45 per cent. is spent on general administration including the Chief's establishment.

Sources of Revenue and Expenditure.

### Section IV.—Land Revenue.

#### (TABLE XX.)

The State is the sole proprietor of the soil. The land administration is old fashioned. No regular settlement has as yet been effected, while villages are farmed out to *zamindārs* who are generally men of position in the village. The *paticārīs* are State officials, and also the *tahsildārs* who are responsible that no oppression is exercised and that only the revenue assessed is recovered from cultivators.

Land is held in three ways known as *khām tahsīl*, *thekādārī* or *jāgīr*.

Tenures.

*Khām tahsīl* is land under the direct management of the Darbār. In such villages one cultivator, usually the richest and most influential local man, is appointed *zamindār* and exercises authority over the rest of the people like an official. He decides petty disputes and collects the land revenue. He has the village registers prepared by the *paticārī* of the village, and accompanies him assisting in collecting the revenue. He sends the revenue when collected and the village papers to the *tahsīl*. In return for this he gets 3 per cent. of the revenue collected. The *tahsildār* also makes tours in the villages and supervises them.

*Khām Tahsīl.*

In *thekādārī* villages there is a *nambardār* or farmer who is responsible for the assessed revenue. The *tahsildār* sees that no more than the assessed revenue is collected.

*Thekādarī Villages.*

Under this system the revenues of a village are assigned to an officer of the State or *hakkadār* in return for service rendered. The *jāgīrdārs* manage the villages and collect the revenue for their own use. A *paticārī* is appointed in all cases by the State to keep

*Jāgīr Villages.*

the village accounts and records. He prepares the accounts of the village and sends them to the *tahsil*.

**Cesses.** The villagers are charged a cess at 3 per cent. on the revenue assessment to defray the pay of the *patwārī*, the amount being collected and credited to the State Treasury.

**Incidence (Table XX).** The incidence of land revenue demand is about Re. 1-5-0 per acre of cultivated area and Re. 0-7-8 per acre of the total area.

#### Section V.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

##### (TABLE XXI.)

**Excise.** The excise is controlled by the revenue department which issues licenses to contractors. The *tahsildārs* control the work and collect the dues.

The contractors deposit a security covering the full amount of the contract. About Rs. 2,300 is derived a year from this source. No special laws or regulations exist.

**Opium.** Practically no poppy is cultivated in the State, only 5 acres being sown on an average yearly, which does not produce sufficient for local consumption as each acre only produces about 8 lbs. of crude opium. No export of the drug takes place.

Import of opium takes place under licenses given by the Political Agent. The sale of local crude opium is controlled by the State as all the local opium has to be sold to the Darbār who purchase it at Rs. 6 per seer, manufacture the drug and sell it to the contractor at Rs. 20.

The retail price is fixed by the Darbār at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  *tolas* per rupee.

**Hemp drugs.** No person may possess more than 2 *tolas* of the drug or purchase more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  a *tola* at one time. No hemp is grown in the State. *Gānja*, *bhāng* and *charas* are imported and sold in retail by licensed contractors. The price is fixed by the Darbār, *gānja* selling at 6 pies per *tola*, *bhāng* at 2 seers per rupee and *charas* 1 *chhatāk* for  $1\frac{1}{4}$  rupee. About Rs. 400 per annum are derived from this source.

**Liquor.** The liquor used is distilled from the flowers of the *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*). The right to vend and distil is given to the same contractor. The contractor makes the liquor of any strength he thinks fit and issues it for sale at his retail shops. The strengths usually sold are : *rāshī* at 1 anna bottle of  $\frac{3}{4}$  seer weight, *phūl* at 3 annas, and *dubāra* at 5 annas a bottle.

The revenue from this source is about Rs. 2,000 a year or 5 per cent. per head of population. The number of shops is 68 or 1 to every 10 miles and every 1,087 persons.

Foreign liquors are not used in the State.

**Section VI.—Public Works.**

No Public Works department exists, any necessary work being carried out on orders from the Darbār through contractors.

**Sections VII and VIII.—Army and Police and Jails.**

The State forces consist of cavalry 75, infantry 350, artillery-men 44, and serviceable guns 9. The number of State police is 70 and that of village police or *chaukidārs* 211. A jail has been opened at Ajaigarh.

**Sections IX and X.—Education and Medical.****(TABLES XXIII AND XXIV.)**

Three schools have been opened in the State, including one Rājkumār School, attended by 67 scholars. There is a dispensary at Ajaigarh. In 1905-06, 853 children were vaccinated, of which 792 were successful.

Schools and  
Dispensaries.

**CHAPTER IV.**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS**  
**AND**  
**GAZETTEER.**

The State is divided into five administrative divisions, of which the main statistics are summarised below:—

NAME OF TAHSIL.	Area in Bighas.	NUMBER OF		Popula- tion (1901).	AREA CULTIVAT- ED IN BIGHAS.		Forest in Bighas.	REMARKS.
		Towns.	Villages		Total.	Irrigated.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Zerghālī (Huzūr)	167,060	...	165	30,664	35,406	3,993	38,648	
2. Bangla ...	34,740	...	15	1,873	1,214	...	10,320	
3. Barwār ...	102,466	...	76	12,186	35,666	176	14,218	
4. Ganj ...	125,412	...	140	16,244	47,539	183	29,566	
5. Mabewā ...	122,303	...	92	17,269	67,049	935	650	
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>611,981</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>78,236</b>	<b>186,874</b>	<b>6,287</b>	<b>93,302</b>	

**GAZETTEER.**

Ajaigarh, *tahsil* Zerghālī (Huzūr).—Chief town of the State situated at the foot of the old fort in 24° 54' N., and 80° 18' E. Abul Fazl mentions Ajaigarh as the headquarters of a *mahal* in the Kālinjar *sarkār* adding that it has a stone fort on a hill.<sup>1</sup> The modern capital is known as the *naushakar* or new city, and lies at the northern end of the rock on which the fort stands. It is in no way remarkable. It was built about 1810 by Bakht Singh and has been much improved by the present Chief.

Population was, in 1901, 4,216 persons; males 2,170, females 2,046; occupied houses 973.

High above the town towers the great fort, one of those strongholds known traditionally as the Ath-kot or eight forts

1. Blochmann—*Ain-i-Akkari*, II, 116.

of Bundelkhand, with which the natural ruggedness of the country long enabled the Bundelās to maintain their independence against the armies of Mughal and Marāthā.

It was ultimately taken by Ali Bahādur of Bānda in 1800 after a siege of six weeks. In 1803 Colonel Meiselbeck was later on sent to take possession in accordance with the term of our treaty with Ali Bahādur.

At Deogaon, five miles from the fort, they were attacked from ambush by Lachhman Daowa, several guns fell into the enemies' hands, and had not Colonel Meiselbeck with great gallantry at once thrown himself upon the attackers and driven them back with the bayonet, the force might have been annihilated. The troops then advanced and occupied Naushahar. Here the *kilādār* came and offered to surrender the fort if he was given 13,000 rupees to pay his men who were in arrears. Two companies were sent up with the money and the fort was made over. That night, however, Lachhman Daowa sent a message to the *kilādār* offering him 18,000 rupees if he would allow him to take possession. The *kilādār* agreed and secretly let Lachhman Daowa and his men in. The two companies were then politely requested to descend the hill and take back the money to Colonel Meiselbeck, while the Colonel was further informed that if he did not at once withdraw he would be fired on by the guns of the fort. The Colonel thereupon retired.<sup>1</sup> It was in 1809 determined to eject Lachhman Daowa.

In January 1809 Colonel Martindell<sup>2</sup> advanced on the fort. The outlying hill of Ragoli was first taken, after a severe fight. This hill was held by Sardār Singh (*khāskalam*) and Ajodhya Parshād, a relation of Lachhman Daowa. The hill was very precipitous and could only be mounted by narrow paths which zig-zagged up its side. These paths were defended every 20 yards or so by posts formed of huge stones held by men who fired in safety on the British troops. The British force, however, continued to advance and after a desperate struggle drove the defenders to the summit. The defenders had erected parapet from behind which they hurled rocks and kept in a fierce matchlock fire.

On reaching the wall the fight was temporarily stopped to give the troops a rest before the final assault, but at 2 A. M.

1. Fogson's *History of the Bundelas*, 185.

2. Sir Gabriel Martindell (1756-1831) served in the Marāthā War of 1804-05 and was in command in Bundelkhand in 1809-12; Nepāl War, 1814-15; K. C. B., 1816; in Pindāri War, 1818, and at Buxār, January 2nd, 1831.

the garrison fled leaving Ajodhya Parshad and 60 men dead behind them; of the latter 21 were „*sardārs*. The British losses amounted to 28 killed and 115 wounded.<sup>1</sup>

The attack on the fort was then proceeded with. The hill to the north-west of the fort called the Behonta pahār was taken after a sharp struggle, and the guns were then drawn up and placed in position so as to command the gates. The whole of the guns were ready on February 11th.

“The batteries opened at daybreak on the 12th of February (1809) and so heavy and destructive was the fire, that the enemy could not shew a man and only fired in the intervals, while our guns were cooling. By sunset two of their guns were dismounted and three of the gates with their defences were laid in ruins. Immense masses of stone and masonry were brought down. Next morning, the batteries played upon the upper gate and defences with powerful effect, and at noon the enemy displayed a white flag. At four they evacuated the fort; and at five we occupied it.”<sup>2</sup>

The grave of Lieutenant Jamieson who was mortally wounded on the assault stands here.

In June, Lachhman Daown fled to Calcutta leaving his family behind in charge of his father-in-law. The family were living in Taraon village at the eastern foot of the fort. The Agent to the Governor-General, Mr. Richardson, sent to secure them. The father-in-law was told they were to go to the fort, where they would be well cared for. He appeared satisfied, and went away. As he did not return, a party went to the house where they found the door closed. On forcing it they discovered that the old man had deliberately cut the throats of all the females and children numbering eight persons, and then his own.<sup>3</sup>

The hill on which the fort stands, called the Kedār Parwat, is an outlier of Kaimur sandstone resting on Bundelkhand gneiss, rising to 860 feet above the plain below, the fort being 1,744 feet above sea-level. The slope is gradual up to about 50 feet from the summit, where it suddenly becomes a perpendicular scarp adding greatly to the defensive strength of the position.

The name by which the fort is now known is, comparatively speaking, a modern one, and is never used in any of the numerous

1. *Asiatic Annual Register*, Vol. XI, p. 27 *f.*

2. *Asiatic Annual Register*, 1809, Vol. XI, 33, and quoted by Fogson, *loc. cit.*

3. *Asiatic Annual Register*, 57; Mundy—*Tour in India* (1832), II, 132.

inscriptions, which have been found upon it, in which it is always called *Jaya-pura-durga*. Curiously enough, although it was undoubtedly built about the 9th century, and was always a place of importance, it is never mentioned by any Muhammadan historian except Abul Fazl<sup>1</sup>, who merely records that it is the chief town of a *mahal* in the Kālinjar sarkār, and notes that it has "a stone fort on a hill." Its present name is a corruption of *Jaya-durga*, through its synonym *Jaya-garh*, the legend ordinarily given which accounts for its foundation by one Ajui-pūl of the Chauhan house of Ajmer being a modern invention.

The battlements of the fort follow the top contour of the hill and have the form of a rough triangle, three miles in circuit.

It was formerly entered by five gates but three are now blocked up. The rampart which never has "the same dimension in height, breadth or depth for three yards running" is composed of immense blocks of stone, without cement of any kind, the parapet upon it being divided into "merlons resembling mitres." Muhammadan handiwork is apparent in the numerous delicately carved stones from Jain temples, which have been inserted into the walls.<sup>2</sup> Many tanks exist on the summit and sides of the hill, several still giving a good supply of pure water. The ruins of three Jain temples are still standing. They are built in 11th century style and very similar to those at Khajrāho in Chhattarpur State. The stones are richly carved with fine designs, and the temples must once have been magnificent specimens of their class. Countless broken remains of idols, pillars, cornices and pedestals lie strewn around, while several inscriptions of later Chandel days, dating from 1141 to 1315, have been discovered in the buildings.<sup>3</sup>

Two records of the Chandella, one dated in 1261 (and the other undated) of Rājā Bhojavarma (1289) day, were found in the fort.

The sides of the hill and all the surrounding country are covered with a thick forest of teak (*Tectona grandis*) and *tendū* or ebony (*Diospyros tomentosa*) which adds to the wild picturesqueness of the scene.

**Amghāt, tahsil Mahewa.**—A village situated on the eastern bank of the Bairma river. The village is so named on account of a large mango tree which stood on the bank of the river. In the centre of the river is a lingam called *Jalkhandi Muhādeo*.

1. *Ain-i-Akbari*, II, 166.

2. Davidson—*Travels in Upper India* (1813). He also mentions the existence of a tomb to Lt. Babington who died in August, 1813.

3. C. A. S. R., VII, 46; XXI, 46; E. I., I, 325.

Population was (1901) 264 persons ; males 122, females 142 ; occupied houses 74. Land revenue of the village is Rs. 1,938.

**Khora**, *tahsil* Zerghātī.—A village situated in 25° 2' N., and 80° 26' E., on the bank of the Bagain river at 12 miles east of Ajaigarh, and 24 miles distant from Attara station on the Jhānsi-Mānikpur section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. Population was, in 1901, 991 persons ; males 493, females 498 ; occupied houses 226. Revenue received from land amounts to Rs. 6,568.

**Kutār**, *tahsil* Ganj.—It was formerly the capital of the local Parihārs, and from the remains of old tanks and temples it appears to have once been a place of some size, but is now practically depopulated, its place being taken by Ganj. It is said to have been raised into a place of importance by Sohanpāl Bundelā in the 13th century. The number of old *pān* gardens on the site shows that a large town once flourished here. Two partially ruined temples are still standing. One of these, dedicated to Pārvati, is of unusual interest. From its style and ornamentation it must belong to the Gupta period of the 4th or the 5th century. An elaborate attempt has been made to preserve the old fashion of rock-cut temples, its walls being carved so as to imitate rock. The figures sculptured upon it are all in Gupta style, and are far superior in execution to those met with in most mediæval temples ; the males, moreover, have their hair dressed in curls, not unlike a judge's wig, after the fashion observed by the Gupta kings on their coins. The second temple which possesses a fine spire is dedicated to Chaturmukha Mahādeo and is built in 8th century style.<sup>1</sup>.

Population (1901) 13 persons ; males 5, females 8 ; occupied houses 4.

**Mahewa**, *tahsil* Mahewa.—The headquarters of the *pargana* of the same name, situated in 24° 24' N., and 80° 12' E., 50 miles distant from Satna station on the East Indian Railway, and 30 from Nāgod.

A police *chāna* is situated here, where a sub-inspector, a muharrir and a few constables reside. A State post office, an encamping ground and a *tarai* are also located here.

Population was, in 1901, 1,617 persons ; males 757, females 860 ; occupied houses 403. Land revenue amounts to Rs. 3,200.

**Pararia Tola, tahsil Barwāra.**—A village situated in 24° 35' N., and 80° 28' E., 30 miles distant by metalled road from the Satna station on the East Indian Railway.

It has a police *thāna* with an inspector, a *jamādār*, a *mu-harrir* and a few constables, an Imperial inspection bungalow (at the distance of 3 miles from the village), an Imperial post office and an encamping ground situated in it.

Population was, in 1901, 566 persons; males 276, females 290; occupied houses 118. The land revenue is Rs. 700.

**Pahārikhera, tahsil Bangla.**—A village situated in 24° 25' N., and 80° 31' E., distant by a fair weather road about 18 miles from Majgawān station on the East Indian Railway, and 19 miles from the Nāgod-Bānda road.

Its original name was Chauka but owing to its situation on a high ground, it has obtained the name Pahārikhera.

The village, originally a small place, has recently increased in size owing to the exertions of the *muāfidār* who holds it. It has a police *thāna*, a Government inspection bungalow and an encamping ground located in it.

Population was, in 1901, 1,131 persons; males 565, females 566; occupied houses 217. The land revenue of the village is Rs. 313.

**Singhpur, tahsil Zerghātī.**—A village situated at a distance of 3½ miles north of the fort of Ajaigarh.

It was originally a Gond settlement but fell to Chhatar-sūl when he established his sway over this part of the country.

Population 1901, 849 persons; males 418, females 431; occupied houses 204.

The land revenue of the village amounts to Rs. 2,601.

---



**TRANSLATION of the SUNNUD granted to RAJAH BUKHT SING under the SEAL and SIGNATURE of the RIGHT HONORABLE the GOVERNOR-GENERAL in COUNCIL.**

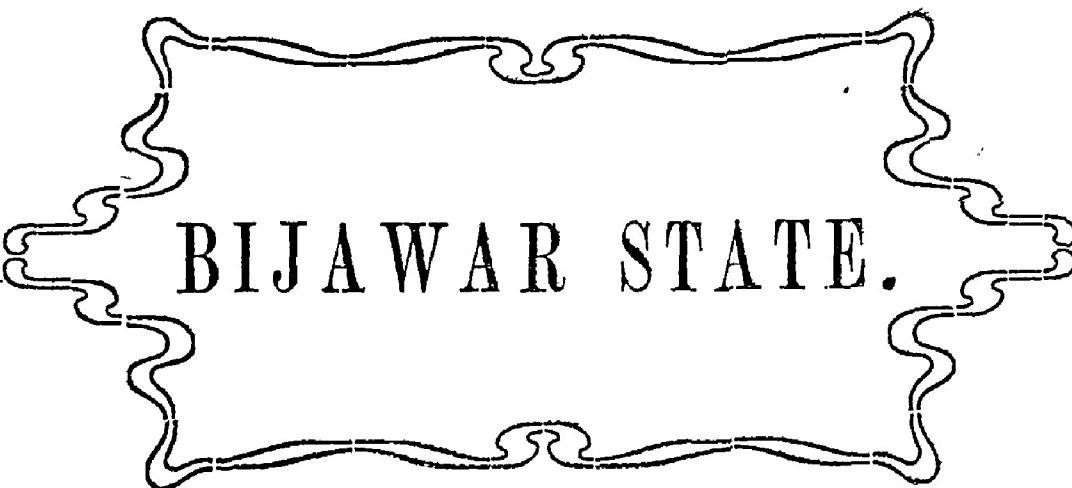
*Dated 25th September 1812.*

To the chowdries, kanoongoes, zamindars and talookdars of the pergunnahs of Kotra, Puway, and Ajeygurh, in the province of Bundelcund be it known: Whereas after the acquisition and annexation of the province of Bundelcund to the British dominions, the Rajah Bukht Sing, the great-grandson of the Rajah Juggnt Raj, and one of the hereditary Chiefs of Bundelcund, appeared before the rulers of the British Government for the purpose of submitting himself with loyalty to its control and governance; and the rulers of the British Government, with a view to the protection and support of the ancient families and men of rank, as is the uniform and humane practice of the British Government, granted to the said Rajah a pension of Rupees 3,000 per mensem; and Whereas, at that time a promise was made to the said Rajah that, in common with the other legitimate Rajahs of this province, he also should receive a territorial provision in lieu of the aforesaid pension. Accordingly, in conformity to the request of the said Rajah, and with a view to the fulfilment of the above promise, in the month of June 1807 A. D., after having delivered in his Ikrarnamah or written engagement binding himself to loyalty and obedience to the British Government, received from the rulers of the British Government the pergunnahs of Kotra and Puway in jaghire, and after the resumption of the jaghire of Ajeygurh, the Rajah Bukht Sing also received in jaghire certain villages in the pergannah of Ajeygurh (the place of residence of his ancestors), which were his hereditary property, in lieu of certain villages in the pergannah of Puway: As in the Sunnud formerly granted to the aforesaid Rajah, the names of the villages granted to him are not detailed, and as the said Rajah has now requested a Sunnud which shall include and detail all the villages now in his possession in the pergunnahs above named: For that reason a single Sunnud granting rent-free the villages detailed underneath, together with their mal, land revenue, sayer, transit duties, abkaree duties on spirituous liquors, and all other rights and appurtenances thereunto belonging, for ever, generation after generation, has been bestowed upon the aforesaid Rajah, by the bounty of the British Government. So long as the Rajah and his adherents shall continue to fulfil the terms of the aforesaid obligation of allegiance, the said Rajah and his heirs and

successors shall enjoy unmolested possession of the pergunnahs undermentioned. It is necessary that you consider and understand the said Rajah to be proprietor and sole controller of the villages detailed herein; and the duties required from the said Rajah are that he shall cultivate and improve the villages in question, and protect and satisfy the cultivators and inhabitants, and by every means in his power contribute to their comfort, and enjoy the produce of the said possessions in loyalty and due obedience to the British Government.

Ratified by the Governor-General in Council on the 25th September 1812.

---



**BIJAWAR STATE.**



## ARMS OF THE BIJAWAR STATE.



**Arms** :—Per chevron gules and vert, a pale or gutty de sang between two fountains proper. *Crest* :—A pelican rousant proper. *Supporters* :—Bear and spotted deer (*chital*). *Lambrequins* :—Gules and vert.

**Motto** :—*Vir dordand var loha khand.* “The arm of the brave is as a bar of steel.”

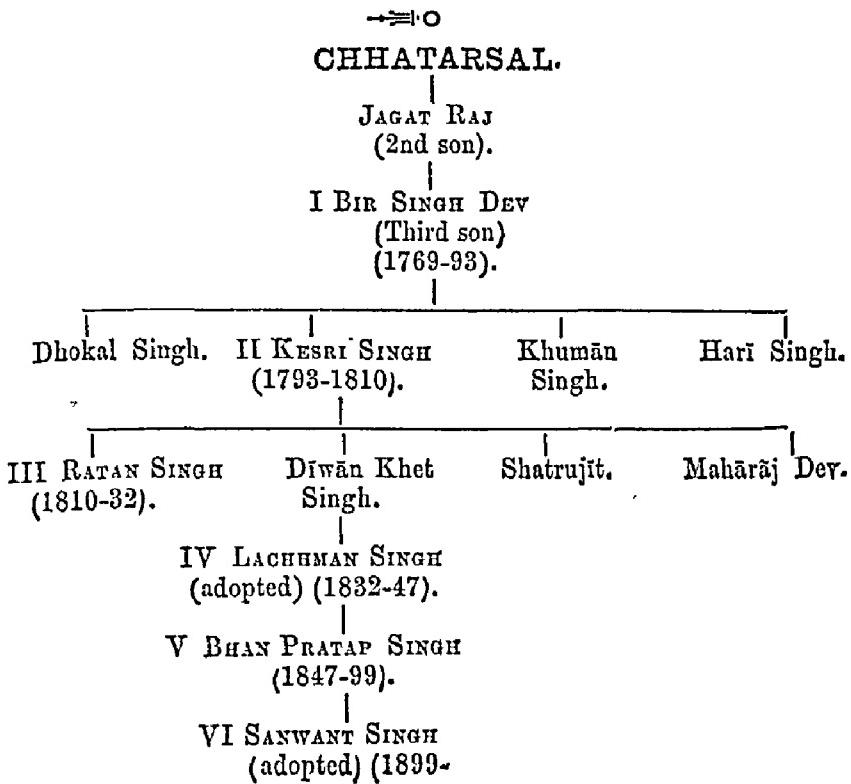
*Note*.—The pale or gutty de sang refers to the traditional origin of the Bundelās, from *bund*, a drop; the fountains to the numerous lakes in the State. The motto alludes to the iron for which the locality was, in former days, famous, with a play on the word Bir, which is the name of the founder as well as meaning brave.

**Gotrāchār**—(See Orchhā State).

---



# GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE BIJAWAR FAMILY.





# CHAPTER I.

## DESCRIPTIVE.

### Section I.—Physical Aspects.

The State of Bijāwar is a *sanad* State under the Political Agent in Bundelkhand. It lies, roughly speaking, between  $24^{\circ} 18'$  and  $25^{\circ} 1'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 0'$  and  $79^{\circ} 57'$  E. Situation.

The State has an area of about 973 square miles, but as the regular survey is not yet complete the figure cannot be given with certainty, and though the *khālsā* villages have been surveyed, the result has not yet been published. Area.

The three *tahsils* of the State, Bijāwar, Gulganj and Ragoli, lie close together, but the *tahsil* of Karaiya is isolated.

The name is said to be derived from that of a Gond, Bije Singh, the founder of the present town of Bijāwar. Name.

The main section of the State is bounded on the north by the Chhatarpur, Charkhāri and Orchhā States, on the south by Charkhāri, Pannā and the Saugor District of the Central Provinces, on the east by Chhatarpur, and on the west by Orchhā, Pannā and the Saugor District. Boundaries.

The isolated *tahsil* of Karaiya is bounded on the north and south by Pannā State, on the west by the Damoh District of the Central Provinces and Pannā State, and on the west by Ajai-garh and Baraundha.

The whole State lies, generally speaking, in the lowlying natural division of Central India, though the main section is here and there considerably cut up by hills. From the top of the Bijāwar fort a good idea of the surrounding country is obtained. On all sides lies a net work of hills rising nowhere to much over 1,600 feet above sea-level, and covered with a heavy jungle of small trees and brushwood. The country in the Karaiya *tahsil*, however, is formed of a level alluvial plain. NATURAL DIVISIONS AND SCENERY.

As has been already remarked, the hills seldom rise much over 1,600 feet above sea-level or from 300 to 400 feet above the plains. The loftiest hill is Chandlakh rising to 1,796 feet above the sea, which stands near Bijāwar town. HILLS.

The important rivers in the State are the Ken which flows through the Karaiya *tahsil* and is joined by its affluents the Sunār, Biarma, Mirhasan and the Dhasān and its affluents RIVERS.

the Bela and Kathān which water the main section. These rivers are of little use for irrigation and do not run throughout more than eight months of the year.

takes.

There are no very large lakes in the State, but the Gorā Tal, Bhagwan, Ragoli, Patharkuān, Bharatpura and Kasā tanks remain full all the year round.

GEOLOGY. I.

The State of Bijāwar gives its name to one of the most important geological formations in India, of which it contains the type-area. The best published description of this region is still that written so far back as 1860 by Mr. H. B. Medlicott, forming the first part of Volume II in the Memoirs of the Geological Survey. All the typical rocks of the Bijāwar series are present: quartrite-sandstones, shales and slates, limestones, banded jaspers, hoinstone-breccias, and a considerable development of basic volcanic rocks.<sup>2</sup> Rich deposits of a peculiar iron ore are met with at a number of places within the area of the Bijāwar rocks, but they are never intercalated between the strata of that series; they seem to be a result of superficial alteration somewhat related to laterite, formed during the period of denudation that intervened between the deposition of the Bijāwar series and that of the overlying Vindhyan, often constituting the basement-bed of the Lower Vindhyan where they rest upon Bijāwars. The capital and all the northern part of the State are situated within the outcrop of the Bundelkhand Gneiss, which underlies the Bijāwar series. South of the Bijāwar outcrop the territory contains representatives of the overlying Lower Vindhyan, Kaimur and Rewah groups, and a number of outlying tracts extend over the great alluvial plain separating the Pannā range of Rewah sandstone from the Bhander table-land. Some of the diamond mines in the Pannā diamond-bearing tract belong to this State.

BOTANY. 2.

Much of the area of the State is hilly and covered with a forest largely of the character of brushwood, the leading constituents of which are species of *Genista*, *Zizyphus*, *Capparis*, *Carissa*, and other shrubs with more or less stunted examples of the trees characteristic of Central India, such as *Acacia catechu* and *Acacia leucophloea*, *Bassia latifolia*, *Terminalia tomentosa*, *Buchanania latifolia*, *Boswellia serrata*, *Bombax malabaricum*, *Butea frondosa*.

FAUNA.

Of the larger wild animals tigers are occasionally met with,

<sup>2</sup>. These rocks which belong to an interesting petrological type have been described by Mr. Holland in the Records of the Geological Survey, Volume XXX, page 37, together with similar rocks, probably belonging to the same geological group, found in the Kadapah area of Southern India.

<sup>2</sup>. By Lieut.-Col. D. Prain, I. M. S., Botanical Survey of India.

*chītal*, black-buck and *cinkāra* represent the deer. The panthers do great damage to cattle, while wild pig are, in some districts, very destructive to young crops.

The climate is, on the whole, temperate, no great extremes being met with except in the hilly region.

The rainfall has only been registered for 10 years, the results of which give an average of 37 inches at Bijāwar town. A maximum of 57 inches was attained in 1898, and a minimum of 14 in 1905.

In 1897 the State was visited by an earthquake which lasted for about 10 seconds but did no injury, and on the 14th May, 1903, a severe cyclonic storm uprooted several thousands of large trees and carried away the thatching of houses.

Climate  
(Table I).

Rainfall  
(Table II).

Cyclones,  
Earthquakes,  
Floods, &c.

### Section II.—History. (Genealogical Tree.)

The earlier history of this tract is dealt with in the Gazetteers of Orchhā and Pannā. Briefly speaking, the territory which now forms the Bijāwar State was taken from the Gonds by Chhatarsāl of Pannā in the beginning of the 18th century.

In 1732 Mahārājā Chhatarsāl of Pannā divided his possessions among his sons and the Peshwā Bājī Rao. One share including the towns of Jaitpur, Bānda, Ajaigarh and Charkhārī fell to Jagat Rāj.

Jagat Rāj had three sons, of whom Pahār Singh, the second son, succeeded ousting his nephew Gumān Singh, the son of his deceased elder brother Kirat Singh. The third son was Dīwān Bir Singh Dev. He sided with Pahār Singh in the disputes which arose between him and his nephews Gumān Singh and Khumān Singh.

Later on, however, Pahār Singh became suspicious of the designs of Bir Singh Dev's mother. She, seeing the turn the affairs were taking, fled from Jaitpur with her son and son-in-law Naraud Singh Ponwār, and retired to Bindrāban where she built a temple which is still supported by a grant from the State. Here she died. Bir Singh Dev now saw that he must devise some means of establishing his position.

About this time Pahār Singh died and was succeeded by Gaj Singh. Before his death Pahār Singh had assigned Bānda and Ajaigarh to Gumān Singh and Charkhārī to Khumān Singh.

Gumān Singh now took pity on Bir Singh Dev and offered him service in the State. This was accepted and Bir Singh was granted land in the Mataund *pargana* worth Rs. 80,000 a

Bir Singh  
(1769-93).

year. Bir Singh's ambitions, however, led him to endeavour to extend his territories. His methods were not productive of peace and his nephew, therefore, about 1769, transferred him to the more distant Bijawar *pargana* where he could pursue his schemes without danger. He rapidly acquired the surrounding country and soon possessed a valuable estate. In this he was much assisted by his general, Bent Bahādur. This man survived his master, but his overweening vanity made him insolent to Kesri Singh and he was murdered during the *Holi* festival at Ragoli. Bir Singh Dev alienated *jāgirs* worth Rs. 12,000 a year to each of his brothers, Hāte Singh, founder of the Bhagwan Thākurs, Kharg Singh, founder of the Kopia family, Arjun Singh, founder of the Silon Thākurs, and Nirudh Singh, his brother-in-law, founder of Brethi family. When he entered into possession of Bijawar, it was held by the descendant of Narāyan Dās, a nephew of Chhatarsūl, to whom he granted a substantial holding still in the possession of his descendants. The present Brethi Thākurs are descended from Nirudh Singh. These *jāgirs* have, in course of time, become considerably subdivided.

When the Gūsāin Hīmmat Bahādur and Ali Bahādur of Bānda commenced their conquest of Bundelkhand in 1790, Bir Singh endeavoured to oppose them. In a fight at Charkhārī in 1793, he was defeated, falling in the battle.

Kesri Singh  
(1793-1810).

Dhokal Singh, the eldest son of Bir Singh Dev, had predeceased his father, and Hīmmat Bahādur, therefore, recommended to Ali Bahādur that Kesri Singh should be granted a *sanad* for his father's possession on the condition of his recognising the Nawāb's suzerainty. A *sanad* was accordingly granted on the 7th *Jamādi-ul-ākhir* 1217, A. H. (October 5th, 1802).

Bir Singh had four legitimate sons: Diwān Dhokal Singh, the eldest who predeceased his father, Kesri Singh who succeeded and Khumān Singh, whose descendants are the Lakhangawān Thākurs, and one illegitimate son, Hari Singh whose descendants hold Mangwāri village.

On the accession of the British to the supreme power, Kesri Singh at once professed his allegiance. He was at the time carrying on a feud with the chiefs of Chhatarpur and Charkhārī regarding the possession of certain territories, and his *sanad* was withheld until the dispute was settled. A quarrel between Kesri Singh and Sone Shāh of Chhatarpur regarding the village of Atrār, actually resulted in a fight, in which the Bijawar forces were successful. Several Thākurs of position were killed. Further conflict was avoided by the intervention of Lachhman Daowa and peace was agreed to.

Kesri Singh died in 1810 leaving three sons Ratan Singh who succeeded him, Khet Singh and Shatrujit ; a fourth son had died young. The dispute regarding the villages being arranged a *sānād* was granted <sup>1</sup> to Ratan Singh by the British Government in 1811, he in return presenting the usual deed of allegiance.. During his time the State was administered by his brother Khet Singh.

Ratan Singh died in 1832 leaving no son. Disputes arose as to the succession, leading to bloodshed in which several members of the chief's family were killed.

Finally, the Government of India recognised Lachhman Singh, nephew of the late chief and son of Khet Singh, who had long acted as minister. He died in 1847 leaving a son Bhān Pratāp Singh, then five years of age. The regency was entrusted to the widow of Khet Singh who was instrumental in keeping peace during the Mutiny, in spite of the fact that she was strictly *pardahnashīn*. For her services during the Mutiny she received a *khilat* for the chief who was also granted a hereditary salute of 11 guns. In 1862 he was given a *sānād* of adoption, in 1866 the hereditary title of Mahārājā and in 1877 the prefix of Sawāī. Bhān Pratāp Singh's mal-administration, however, plunged the State into financial difficulties, and as he shewed no signs of amendment, it was placed under supervision in 1897. As he had no son he adopted, in 1898, Rao Rājā Sānwant Singh, second son of the present Mahārājā of Orchhī, who succeeded, on Bhān Pratāp's death, in 1899. Objections to this succession were raised by the Thākurs of Lakhangaon, Kopia, Gharwār and Jasgawān and Dīwān Dhīraj Singh of Bhagwan, who refused to attend the installation ceremony, for which act of contumacy they were detained at Nowgong until they had apologised. The Thākurs of Bhagwan and Jasgawān were subsequently allowed to return, tho' others were still recalcitrant. In January 1903, the chief was granted administrative powers. By this time all the recalcitrant Thākurs including Mawai and Latiani had been pardoned by the Chief and their *jāgīrs* restored to them, they having apologised to the Chief and agreeing to be loyal in future. In 1905 he was present at Indore during the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Chief bears the titles of His Highness and Mahārājā Sawāī and enjoys a salute of 11 guns.

The Bijāwar Chief is related to the other Bundelā families. Among his feudatories the Thākurs of Bhagwan, Kopia and

Ratan Singh  
(1810-32).

Lachhman  
Singh  
(1832-47).

Bhān Pratāp  
Singh  
(1847-99).

Sānwant  
Singh  
(1899-)

Titles.

Relatives  
of the  
Chief.

<sup>1</sup>. See Appendix A.

## BIJAWAR STATE.

Silon are descendants of the family brothers Hāte Singh, Kharg Singh and Arjun Singh; the Brothi Thākurs are descended from Naraund Singh, the husband of Bir Singh's sister, and the Lakhangaon Thākurs from Khumān Singh, Bir Singh's third son.

## Archaeology.

It is reported that old remains lie in many places in the State, but they have never been investigated. The places mentioned are Mankari ( $24^{\circ} 36' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 28' E.$ ), where there is a record of V. S. 1647 (1590 A. D.), Kundel with one of V. S. 1770 (1626 A. D.), Buda, where 14 stones (probably *satt*) are said to bear inscriptions, Gudmaniyān, a *satt* stone of V. S. 1813 (1756 A. D.), other spots being Bagri, Ranwala, Mabrakachh, Jagdeshpur, Urdani, Chbarra, Chhaitda. Pandar figures, no doubt Jain Tirthankars, are reported at Salaia ( $24^{\circ} 40' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 48' E.$ ) and Narāyanpur ( $24^{\circ} 41' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 36' E.$ ). A religious fair is held at these places.

Section III.—Population.  
(TABLES III AND IV.)

## Enumerations.

Three enumerations have taken place giving in 1881, 113,285; in 1891, 123,414; and in 1901, 110,500. This gives a fall of 12,914 or 10 per cent. between 1891 and 1901. The density is 114 per square mile.

The State contains 1 town Bijāwar (5,220) and 343 villages.<sup>1</sup> Of the latter 16 have a population of over 1,000, 49 of between 500 and 1,000, and 278 of under 500.

In 1901, 56,697 males and 53,803 females were returned giving 95 females to 100 males.

Classified by religions there were 105,985 or 96 per cent. Hindus, 2,035 Jains, 2,067 Musalmāns and 413 Animists. The prevailing dialect is Bundelkhandi. Of the population 1,763 were literate.

Among castes Brāhmans (13,500) form 12 per cent., Ahirs (10,300) 9 per cent., Kāchhīs (9,000) 8 per cent., Lodhīs 7 per cent., and Thākurs (Bundelū Rājputs) 6 per cent.

Agriculture is followed by 49,400 persons or 45 per cent., and general labour by 26,000 or 23 per cent.; other occupations are insignificant.

The people dress in the fashion common to Bundelkhand. Ordinarily, the dress of a male Hindu consists of a *sāfa*, *angarkha*, *kurta* and *dhotī* and that of a female a *dhotī*, *chunari*, *lchienga* and *angia*.

<sup>1</sup>. Since the Census of 1901 one more village has been brought upon the Register.

## SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS.

## Dress.

Meals are generally taken twice, at midday and in the evening. The staple food grains are *junari*, *kodon*, *sāmān*, *kutki* and the fruits of the *mahuā*.

Food.

The rich eat wheat, rice, gram and fruits : a few only eat flesh.

Houses.

Houses are mostly of mud with thatched or tiled roofs.

Marriage.

The marriage customs are the same as in other parts of Bundelkhand.

The principal festivals are *Salono*, *Dasahra*, *Dīpālī*, *Holi* and local fairs.

Festivals.

CHAPTER II.  
ECONOMIC.  
(TABLES VII TO XV, XXIX AND XXX.)  
Section I.—Agriculture.  
(TABLES VII TO X.)

**General conditions.**

The State falls into three sections as regards agricultural conditions. The Bijāwar *tahsil* is much cut up by hills, and but little soil is culturable ; in the Ragoli and Gulganj *tahsils* the hills interfere less with agriculture; while in the Karaiya *tahsil* the soil is alluvial and highly fertile.

As regards climate and rainfall there is nothing to choose between the different parts..

**Classification of soils.**

The soil is classified in three ways, by quality and appearance, by situation and by the use to which it is put.

In the first classification the main varieties are *mota* (also called *mār*), a black coloured soil of clayey consistency which cakes into hard lumps ; it bears excellent crops; *gadra* or *kābar*, a similar soil but of more sandy constitution, and less fertile ; *dumat*, a mixture of *mota* and *patron* soils, its colour being reddish above where it is oxidized but black below ; it is less fertile than *gadra*; *pandwa*, a yellowish red coloured soil of moderate fertility; *patron*, an inferior soil much mixed with *Lankar* (lime nodules) which can be cultivated only in or soon after the rains.

Classed by situation soils are known as *nagarwāra* and *geondai* or situated near towns and villages, which facilitates manuring, irrigating and export of produce, and *hār* or land near forest or jungle which is usually difficult to cultivate.

Classed by use they are termed *unhārī* or spring (*rabi*) crop and *sīārī* or autumn (*kharif*) crop land.

**Seasons.**

Two seasons, the *sīārī* (*kharif*) or autumn and the *unhārī* (*rabi*) or spring crop seasons, are followed, maize, *bājra*, *jowār*, etc., being sown in the first case and wheat and gram in the latter.

**Cultivated area and Variation (Table IX). Agricultural practice.**

The area ordinarily cultivated amounts to 139,700 acres, of which about 15,000 are irrigated. Figures are only available for two years and show no variation.

The less productive soils which require much rain are always sown first. Two days are fixed for the commencement of operations, the *akhātīj* (*Baisākh Sudī* 3rd) and the *bara barsāt* (*Jeth Bādi amārasya*). Those who are unable to start operation on these days do so on *Jeth Sudī* 10th.

A religious ceremony called *haraitan* is carried out on this occasion. It consists in worshipping the plough, oxen and

implements. A small pot (*bīja*) filled with grain, a plate containing gram called *deval*, boiled gram called *kuhri*, turmeric, *dūb* grass and flowers with one rupee are taken to the field. The oxen are first marked with a *tīka* and offerings made to them, the *deval* and *kuhri* being given them to eat and distributed to the present. Some seed from the *bīja* is then sown and the rest brought back. On the threshold of the house five or seven lamps made of cow dung, containing seeds of the crop to be sown, are lighted; of these seeds a little are thrown over the roof of the house.

The *kharīf* crops, *kodon*, *sāmān*, *jowār*, maize, etc., are sown in *Asārh* (June-July), and *tillī*, *urad*, *mūng*, *kukī*, etc., in *Sāwan* (July-August). *Barai* or sugarcane is sown in *Jeth* (May-June).

The *rabi* crops, wheat, gram, barley, etc., are sown at the end of *Kunwār* (October) and the beginning of *Kārtik* (November).

No ceremony is performed at this time except in Karaiya where at the commencement of the sowing the *nārī* or bamboo tube through which seed is sown is worshipped. The plough is placed in one corner of a field in which five holes are dug. Some handfuls of grain and *kāns* grass are thrown into them and they are filled up and sprinkled with water, turmeric and rice. *Kuhri* and *athwāi* (*pūris*) are placed on the top with pieces of a cocoanut, and doles of grain are distributed.

*Sāmān*, *kodon*, maize, *jowār*, *urad*, etc., are weeded once, rice twice. A small plough is also passed down between the rows of standing *jowār* twice, and of *kodon* once, to admit water to the roots. This process is called *jerna*.

Reaping in the case of *kharīf* crops commences in *Bhādon* (August-September) and ends in *Aghan* (November-December).

The crops after they are cut are brought to the threshing floor (*khaliān*) and there trodden out by oxen.

Reaping in the case of the *rabi* crops begins in *Phāgun* (February-March) and ends in the beginning of *Baisākh* (April).

The grain is trodden out by oxen. The threshing floor is prepared by smearing it with cow dung. A post called the *medi* is erected in the centre to which the oxen are attached. The oxen are always muzzled with a *masika* or net. This process of treading out is known as *dāin*.

The grain is finally winnowed. This is never done in an east wind, which is supposed to carry weevil (*ghun*) in it.

The cost of reaping amounts to about  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the crop in the case of *jowār*, *bājra*, gram, *kodon* and *sāmān*, and to  $\frac{1}{2}$  in the case of wheat, barley, *urad*, *mūng* and maize.

Sowing.

Weeding.

Reaping.

The *kharif* crops are sown broadcast by hand, but wheat, linseed and gram are sown through a tube called a *nārī* formed of a hollow bamboo. This is fixed on to a plough and is surrounded by a funnel called the *chauthia* into which the seed is dropped. Barley and *pissi* wheat are sown directly in the furrow by a man walking behind the plough; this is called *kundikai kund* (furrow).

## Dufasli.

All irrigated land is *dufasli* or double crop land: *urad*, *sāmān* or some other *kharif* crop is first sown and then a rabi crop of barley, *pissi*, or gram. Rice is often sown first where water is plentiful.

## Rotation.

Rotation, though not systematically followed, is well known to the cultivator. When practised *tilli* and *kutki* are generally sown in the first year followed by *kodon* in the next and then by *jowār* or *rāli* in the third.

## Mixed sowings.

Common combinations of crops in the same field are *arhar*mūng, *kodon* with *tilli*, and *urad* with *tilli*.

The process of manuring is seldom resorted to, except in the case of special crops, such as sugarcane or betel and in fields near villages which can be irrigated. Village sweepings or cow dung are usually employed. This manure is placed in pits to rot for three years before being spread on the fields. A basketful of manure is called *gobra* and the pits *gobār*. Fifty head of cattle will give 150 baskets of manure.

## Irrigated crops.

The crops irrigated are barley, *pissi*, *batra*, *masūr*, sugarcane, and garden produce. Other crops are occasionally watered when the supply of water is ample.

## Pests and diseases.

The commonest pests are locusts and rats. The latter are always active after a year of deficient rainfall and do great damage.

## Implements.

No change has taken place in the implements used by the cultivator. The most important are the *hal* or plough, *bakhar* or *bakkhar*, a weeding plough or harrow, *hansia*, a sickle, *nārī* or *nālī*, a seed tube, and *phāora*, a spade. The stone sugar mill or *kollu* has been almost entirely replaced by the wooden roller crushing mill.

## Area sown at each harvest (Table X).

At the *kharif* approximately 91,600 acres are sown in a normal year, the chief crops being *kodon* (28,700), *kutki* (17,200); at the rabi 48,000 acres are sown, *pissi* (6,100), barley (15,000) and gram (13,500) predominating.

## Food crops.

The chief food crops at the *kharif* are *kodon* (*Paspalum stoloniferum*), *jowār* (*Sorghum vulgare*), *kutki* (*Panicum miliaceum*), *sāmān* (*P. frumentaceum*), *rāli* (*P. miliaceum*), *bajra* (*Pennisetaria spicata*), maize or *makai* (*Zea mays*), *dhān* or rice (*Oryza sativa*),

and *kākun* (*Setaria italica*) ; in the *rabi*, *jau*, barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), *chana* or gram (*Cicer arietinum*), *gehūn* or wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), *pissī* or soft red wheat.

The staple food grains are, in order of importance, *koden*, *jowār*, *sāmān*, *kutkī*, *bājra* and *dhān* in the autumn crop, and *jau*, *chana*, *pissī*, and wheat in the spring crop.

The most important oil-seeds are, at the *kharīf*, *tillī* (*Sesamum indicum*) and at the *rabi*, *alsī* or linseed (*Linum usitatissimum*), and *sarson* (*Brassica campestris*). Oil-seeds.

The fibre most cultivated is *san* or Deccan hemp (*Crotolaria juncea*) and a little *amārī* (*Hibiscus cannabinus*) being also sown. Fibres.

The most ordinary vegetables grown are cucumbers, carrots, radishes, potatoes, *methi* (*Trigonella foenum graecum*), *baingan* (*Solanum melongena*), *ghuiān* (*Colocasia antiquorum*), *rātālā* (*Dioscorea*) ; spices are *zīrā* (Cummin), chillis, ginger, garlic, onions, turmeric and *ajwān* (*Lingusticum ajowan*).

Fruit trees include the mango (*Mangifera indica*), orange, custard apple (*Anona squamosa*), guava, *jāmun*, plantain, *mahuā*, *ber* (*Zizyphus jujuba*) and other varieties.

Two crops of importance are sugarcane and betel. *Barai* or sugarcane (*Saccharum officinarum*) is sown in two ways, either with irrigation or *sinchitār* sowing or without irrigation or *nagaritār* sowing.

Irrigated sugarcane (*barai*) is sown in a field which has been carefully manured and watered and then ploughed over twice. The cuttings used are first put into a pit filled with the dung of sheep and goats, after five or six days buds shoot from the joints, and the cuttings are then ready for sowing. It takes seven men to carry out this process, two ploughs and one sowing plough or *nāgar* being required. A plough precedes and the *nāgar* follows it. One man drives, while another directs its course, a third man feeding the *nāgar* tube with cuttings which the man holding the handle treads into the ground, a fourth man carries a basket of cuttings which is replenished by a fifth man from a general store.

The second plough follows the *nāgar* and closes in the furrows. The field is watered four times and weeded. The sowing takes place in *Māgh* (January) and the cutting in *Kārtik* (November).

The cane is crushed, either in a press (*kolhu*) or between rollers, two *gāyaris* containing 20 seers of juice yielding 5 seers of *gur*, which sells at 8 seers a rupee.

The total cost of *sinchitār* sowing is Rs. 40 per acre and the sale price about Rs. 45, leaving a profit of Rs. 5 to the cultivator.

Garden produce.

Garden produce.

SPECIAL CROPS.

Sugarcane.

Sugarcane sown without irrigation is called *nagarwār*. The field in this case has to be ploughed 15 times, otherwise the process is similar. The profit is small, only amounting to about 5 annas per acre.

**Betel.** In the Bijāwar and Karaiya *tahsils* betel is cultivated. Land with a natural slope is selected near to water as irrigation is essential. An inaugurating ceremony is performed on *Shivarātri*. A post is driven into the ground in the centre selected field. A small pot of *gur* and four annas worth of pice being taken to the ground where two of the pice are buried below the post, the rest and the *gur* being distributed among those present. A garland of flowers is placed round the post and prayers are offered in honour of *Mailwāni Devi*. The field is then staked with posts (*kora*) about a yard apart, on the outer row of which matting is fastened so as to enclose the field. The top is then similarly enclosed and strewn with grass thus forming a hot house.

One *bigha* costs about Rs. 20 to prepare. Furrows are dug along the lines of the stakes in which the cuttings are planted. A manure formed of the residue from oil pressing and bats dung is applied to the plants. This process is an expensive one, the total cost of one *bigha* before it is ready to cut being about Rs. 400 and the receipts Rs. 500.

The List of the average yield per *bigha* with prices and the kind of manure used is given at the end of this section (vide page 15).

**Irrigation 1.  
(Table IX.)** The Gulganj and Ragoli *tahsils* are the most irrigated, that of Karaiya being the least.

The irrigated area is 15,000 acres or two per cent. of the total area, being distributed thus: Bijāwar *tahsil* 4,200 acres, Gulganj 4,500, Ragoli 6,300, and Karaiya nil.

While, however, it is obvious and admitted that there is little natural fertility in this tract, it is actually found by no means so poor and sterile as the above description and statistics seem to indicate. It is saved from this by an excellent system of irrigation both from wells and tanks. There are 10 lakes among the *khālsā* villages which are used for irrigation, and there is only one village, Bikrampur, in which either wells or a tank are not available. The total irrigated area in 1902-03 was 27.39 per cent. of the total cultivated.

The means employed for irrigation are numerous and interesting. Water is conveyed from the lake to the fields most easily accessible through masonry sluice holes known as *seurār*, and thence by a regular net work of channels along the

---

1. By Mr. J. E. Goudge, I. C. S., Settlement Officer in Bundelkhand.

field boundaries. These channels generally have a suitable gradient, so that there is no labour involved in the first automatic watering which may be given from a tank. As the water dries up it often sinks below the sluice holes, and then it is necessary to raise it either by swing baskets, *doll*, or by a curious mechanism consisting of a boat or hollowed out trees, one end of which is suspended from a beam which works as a lever, the weight of large stones and men on the other end sufficing to raise it full of water, and pour it into the channel on higher ground. This is cumbersome and very hard work. The method is known as *donri* in this part of Bundelkhand.

A noteworthy fact in reference to lake irrigation is that the masonry sluices and the stone embankments are annually repaired at the cost of the State. All the best and largest lakes are thus kept at a high level of efficiency.

Wells are almost exclusively worked by the Persian wheels which discharge the water into a trough, and it is thence carried by cleverly levelled channels (*baraho*) into the fields.

The Persian wheel is very well adapted to a country where the water is found moderately near the surface and where a copious flow of water is required.

The total number of wells recorded at Survey is 1,300 and the area irrigated from them is 5,001 acres, giving an incidence per well of 3.85 acres. In only one village, Kenri ( $25^{\circ} 59' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 37' E.$ ), which is in the extreme north, where the soil gets richer and less thirsty and the water recedes from the surface, the *charsa* or leatheren bag worked by oxen down an inclined plane over a pulley, replaces the Persian wheel, and it is extremely interesting to note that the line of cessation of the Persian wheel and commencement of the *charsa* in the submontane plains of Bundelkhand invariably marks the transition to naturally richer and heavier soils.

Sometimes the Persian wheel mechanism is used temporarily to raise water from a river bed with steep banks when a semicircular excavation to receive the chain pots is temporarily made in the banks which is known as *ramaiya* or a bricked excavation is sometimes permanently made on the margin of a lake open on the water side. This latter is known as *khanch*. The methods of irrigation employed are well adapted to the character of the country. Both the well and the lake are always found close to the homestead, and the extent of the irrigated land in all directions from the homestead as a centre depends, mainly, on the enterprise of the villages. Generally speaking, wells may be sunk with profit almost anywhere. The "irrigated heart" of the red soil village, as it has been called, is usually compact and, surrounded by a high thorny hedge. It generally slopes down from high ground on which

the village stands to some *nāla* or river bed, and it is known as the "Tereta."

**Sources.** The main sources are wells, *bāoris* and tanks. The former number 6,400 and the latter 100.

The water is, in most cases, raised by the Persian wheel or *rahat*. Many other devices are also resorted to however. Among these the commonest are the *dori*, which consists of the hollow trunk of a tree suspended from a pole with a counterpoise at the opposite end, and the *chhapa* or *dauri*, a basket slung on a rope which is thrown into the water by two men standing on either side, who thus scoop it up into a channel whence it runs into the field. The *bāndh* or temporary dam is also used, water being led through a channel (*senrār*) to the crops.

**Cost.** The cost of irrigating a *bigha* varies with the crop and the source, *pissī* wheat irrigated from a well costs about Rs. 7-8-0, but *masūr* only half that sum ; from a tank *pissī* costs 7 annas only to irrigate and *masūr* 3 annas. The reason for this is that *pissī* requires four waterings and the cost of men and bullocks is higher than were mere channel irrigation such as is resorted to in the second case employed.

Water is of two classes, *khāri* or bitter, and *mītha* or sweet ; the former is considered the most valuable for irrigating.

Nothing in the form of water rates is directly levied, the higher rates for irrigated land taking the place of any such charge.

**Wells.** A *kachcha* well costs, on an average, Rs. 60 and a masonry well Rs. 100. A well usually waters 6 *bighas*.

**Agricultural Population.** Of the total population, about 90 per cent. are dependent on agriculture. The chief cultivating classes are *Lodhis*, *Kāchhus*, *Kurnis* and *Ahirs*.

**Cattle.** No local breeds of cattle or other domestic animals are of any particular note, except the *keniya* plough oxen bred in the *Ragoli tāhsil* on the banks of the Ken river, whence the breed gets its name.

Pasture land is ample in all but years of actual famine and no difficulties are experienced in feeding animals.

**Cattle diseases.** Various complaints are common, those known as *Baikara*, *Chachonra*, *Chechak*, *Asadia rog* (dysentery), and *Khoro* (vertigo) being the most ordinary.

**Fairs (Table XXVIII).** The most attended fairs are those held at Bijawar town, *Būjna*, *Abār* and *Sendhpā* villages.

**Takkāvi.** Advances are made to cultivators in times of distress at low interest for the purchase of seed and plough oxen.

*List of the average yield per bigha with prices and the kind of manure used..*

Number.	KHARIF.				RABI.			
	Name of crop.	Yield per Bigha.	Price of the produce per Bigha.	Manure.	Name of crop.	Yield per Bigha.	Price of the produce per Bigha.	Manure.
1	Cotton ...	1 24	Rs. A. P. 8 0 0	Rubbish and cowdung.	Pān leaves	297000	Rs. A. P. 495 0 0	Excretion of bat, hatt and n'm fruit.
2	Tilli ...	1 32	6 8 9	Nil.	Barai ...	45,000	45 0 0	Goat and sheep dung.
3	Singhāra	5 20	2 1 8 0	"	Ponda ...	10,000	150 0 0	"
4	Kulthi ...	1 24	4 14 0	"	Akī ...	1 35	6 13 0	Nil.
5	San ...	1 10	4 8 9	"	Rāi ...	1 30	5 3 0	Rub: & Cow:
6	Rajgir ...	1 24	4 0 0	Rub: and cowdung.	Sarson ...	1 16	4 5 0	"
7	Māng ...	2 16	5 5 3	"	Mothi ...	1 35	5 12 3	"
8	Urad ...	2 16	5 5 3	"	Gebūn ...	3 0	8 9 0	"
9	Bājra ...	2 10	5 7 3	"	Pissī ...	3 0	8 0 0	"
10	Amāri ...	3 0	4 0 0	"	Gunjai ...	3 0	6 5 0	"
11	Makai ...	2 0	3 13 3	"	Chana ...	2 15	4 6 0	Nil.
12	Jowār ...	3 0	4 12 9	Nil.	Masūr ...	1 8	2 3 0	Rub: & Cow:
13	Dhān ...	6 0	7 4 3	"	Batra ...	1 26	3 0 0	"
14	Kākun ...	3 20	5 14 3	"	Teora batra	3 8	5 5 3	"
15	Kutki ...	2 16	3 8 0	Nil.	Jau ...	3 15	5 6 9	"
16	Sāmān ...	2 36	4 0 0	Cowdung.	Sathia ...	4 30	6 2 0	"
17	Rāli ...	2 32	4 0 0	Nil.	Arhar ...	1 14	2 0 0	Nil.
18	Mata ...	3 8	4 9 0	Rub: and Cowdung.	Chena ...	1 30	3 5 3	Rub: & Cow:
19	Kodon ...	4 20	5 7 3	Nil.				
20	Basara ...	2 20	2 8 0	Rub: and Cowdung				

### Section II.—Wages and Prices.

(TABLES XIII AND XIV.)

In villages all wages are, as a rule, paid in kind. For weeding, a man receives in the case of *kodon*, *sāmān*, etc., *dibyas* (bundles) containing 4 *chauris* ( $5\frac{1}{2}$  seers) of grain each per diem ; for reaping barley,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  seers ; for wheat and *pissī*,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  seers. In the Karaiya *tahsil* the rates are higher, 6 seers being given

for reaping wheat, and labourers, therefore, go to Karaiya from other parts of this State at this season.

The village artisans and servants also receive doles of grain at the harvest in return for their services.

The ordinary rates are : 1 *pela* (11 seers) of *kodon* and barley, 1 *chauris* (6 seers) of *kukki*, and 1 *chauri* (2 seers) of urad for each plough in the village.

#### Variations.

Wages have risen in late years owing to a diminished supply of labour. After the famine of 1897 many cultivators attracted by high wages in British territory migrated and thus reduced the available number of workers.

Another cause is the rise in the price of grain due to increased facilities for export, which benefits the cultivator.

#### Material condition.

On the whole, the people are well off, the cultivator being in better off circumstances than the middle class clerk, who is obliged to keep up appearances, his family not being in a position to earn money until late in life, while the cultivator's children early assist in herding cattle. A slight improvement in dress is also to be described, while many petty luxuries, the greatest being kerosine oil, are now placed within the reach of poor people.

### Section III.—Forests.

#### (TABLE IX.)

The forests of the State cover about 274,600 acres. The trees are divided into two classes, *mrifud* or single, and *murakkab* or mixed.

In the first class valuable trees such as teak and *seja* are found, while the second class contains the less valuable kinds.

These two sections are subdivided into first class containing teak and other high class timber trees, second class or *sat-katha-ka-jangal* containing ordinary but useful trees, such as *mahuā*, bamboo, etc., and third class or *katila-ka-jangal* formed of trees used for fuel.

First class jungle is protected (*mafūz*) and the forest officer's order is required before wood can be cut from it, whereas cultivators are allowed to obtain fuel and wood from the third class without special leave.

#### Control.

A forest officer is in charge assisted by a subordinate clerk, three foresters and 26 guards.

A forester is posted in each *tahsil* except Karaiya where there is little forest.

These men see that the rules are adhered to and in case of fire take steps to get it extinguished. Regular fire lines have been cut in reserved areas. All receipts from the sale of produce are recorded by the *patwari* and credited to the treasury. A dépôt for the sale of jungle produce has been started at Bijāwar town.

Minor products, such as gum, lac, charcoal burning, etc., are made over yearly to a contractor who pays a fixed sum to the Darbār. Cultivators have a right to wood for implements and the construction of houses free, and usually also receive wood at reduced rates on other occasions.

The average receipts amount to about Rs. 5,000 and the expenditure to Rs. 4,000.

Revenue,

The State has grass reserves in several places amounting to 930 acres, the grass being given to the State cavalry and used in the stables.

Grasses.

The commonest grasses met with are *musyal*, *parba*, *sain*, *siāla*, *qendla*, *laraī*, *dūb* (*Cynodon daetylon*), *kāns* (*Imperata spontanaria*) and *ronsa* (*Andropogon macracanthum*).

The commonest trees with the local names are given below :—

Trees,

Vernacular name.	Botanical name.	Uses.
Ākola or Sainar,	<i>Alangium larmarchii</i> ...	Fruit and leaves in medicine and its oil.
Āoula	<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> ...	Fruit eaten, and used to make ink.
Babūl	<i>Acacia arabica</i> ...	Wood used in implements; gum also used.
Bahera	<i>Terminalia belerica</i> ...	Fruit in medicine and to make ink; leaves in dyeing.
Bāns	Bamboos (various) ...	In building.
Bar	<i>Ficus indicu</i> ...	Worshipped by Hindus.
Bel	<i>Aegle marmelos</i> ...	Fruit in medicine and wood in furniture.
Ber	<i>Zizyphus jujuba</i> ...	Fruit eaten; wood in furniture.
Bhilāwa	<i>Semicarpus anacardium</i> ,	Fruit eaten, and for making ink.
Bija	<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> ,	Wood for implements and drums.
Chirola	<i>Ulmus integrifolia</i> ...	Wood for implements.
Chirooji	<i>Buchanania latifolia</i> ...	Fruit eaten.
Chiula or Dhak,	<i>Butea frondosa</i> ...	Wood used for structures in water; seed in medicine.

<i>Fernacular name.</i>	<i>Botanical name.</i>	<i>Use.</i>
Dhaman	... <i>Grewia vestita</i>	... Wood for implements and charcoal.
Dhawa	... <i>Anogeissus latifolia</i>	... Wood in buildings, etc.
Dhwai	... <i>Woodfordia floribunda</i>	... Bark in medicine, and flower in dyeing silk.
Ubangan	... <i>Cordia macleodii</i>	... Wood for implements.
Dudhi	... <i>Wrightia tomentosa</i>	... Wood for charcoal, and in structures below water; seed in medicine.
Ghanta	... <i>Schrobera swietenioides</i>	... Wood in implements.
Ghont	... <i>Zizyphus xylopyrena</i>	... Fruit in tanning; wood in charcoal.
Gular	... <i>Ficus glomerata</i>	... Fruit eaten; wood in furniture and charcoal.
Haldū	... <i>Adina cordifolia</i>	... Wood in buildings and implements.
Hurra	... <i>Terminalia chebula</i>	... Fruit eaten, and used in medicine.
Jainrasi	... <i>Eleodendron roxburghii</i>	... Wood in houses and implements.
Jāmun	... <i>Eugenia jambolana</i>	... Fruit eaten; wood for implements.
Kalibar	... <i>Antidesma dipteracum</i>	... Wood for implements.
Kaim	... <i>Stephogyne parviflora</i>	... Wood for implements.
Kalla	... <i>Cochlospermum gossypium</i>	Its gum ( <i>katira</i> ) is used in medicine.
Kardi	... <i>Cordia myxa</i>	... Wood for implements.
Kari	... <i>Cupparis aphylla</i>	... Ditto.
Karaunda	... <i>Carissa carandas</i>	... Fruit eaten.
Khaic	... <i>Acacia catechu</i>	... Catechu extracted, bark used in tanning and wood for implements.
Khajär	... <i>Phoenix sylvestris</i>	... Date palm fruit eaten.
Khuuner	... <i>Gmelina arborea</i>	... Wood for drums and furniture.
Kirwāra or Amaltās	... <i>Cassia fistula</i>	... Dye from bark; pod in medicine as a purgative.
Koha	... <i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	... Wood in buildings and implements.
Kumbi	... <i>Cureya arborea</i>	... Wood in buildings and bark in medicine.
Kūrra	... <i>Holarrhena anti-dysenterica</i>	... Seed in medicine; wood in implements.
Kusam	... <i>Schleichera trijuga</i>	... Wood for sugarcane presses; loc thrive on it.
Mahnā	... <i>Bassia latifolia</i>	... Fruit eaten; flowers used to distil liquor; oil from seed.
Mainar	... <i>Rhamnus dumetorum</i>	... Fruit eaten: wood for implements.
Makor	... <i>Zizyphus oxyphlia</i>	... Fruit eaten; charcoal from wood.
Maoli	... <i>Bauhinia racemosa</i>	... Wood in implements.
Nim	... <i>Melia indica</i>	... Wood for implements.

Vernacular name.	Botanical name.		Uses.
Pākar	... <i>Ficus infectoria</i> and <i>F.... rumpfii</i> ,		Wood in implements.
Papra	... <i>Gardenia latifolia</i>	...	Wood in furniture.
Pipal	... <i>Ficus religiosa</i>	...	Worshipped by Hindus.
Ron	... <i>Soymida febrifuga</i>	...	Leaves as fodder; wood for implements.
Roini	... <i>Mallotus phillipensis</i>	...	Fruit gives a crimson dye; wood as fuel.
Sāgun (Teak)	... <i>Tectona grandis</i>	...	Wood in buildings.
Saija	... <i>Lagerstroemia parviflora</i> ,		Wood in buildings and implements; bark in tanning.
Saj	... <i>Terminalia tomentosa</i>	...	Wood in buildings and implements.
Salaia	... <i>Boswellia serrata</i>	...	Used for implements; gum (rāl) used.
Sīras	... <i>Albizia lebbeck</i>	...	Wood in implements.
Sitaphal	... <i>Anona squamosa</i>	...	Fruit eaten.
Sandan	... <i>Santalum album</i>	...	Oil extracted; wood in carving, and applied to body.
Tendū	... <i>Diospyros tomentosa</i>	...	Fruit eaten; wood in buildings.

## Section IV.—Mines and Minerals.

(TABLE XII.)

Bijāwar lies in the most metalliferous region of Central India, and its deposits of ore have been long known. Diamonds are found at the villages of Simera, Jhanda and Dhanauja, while iron ores of two kinds<sup>1</sup> known as *patru* or *kheri*, and *dhaū* and limestone are met with in many places, the first especially at Patra village ( $24^{\circ} 34' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 40' E.$ ), and pottery clay also in many localities.

Two classes of digging are met with, one called *chhila* in which a shallow pit of four feet is dug, and the other *gahara* in which a deep excavation is made, sometimes 30 feet in depth.

The diggers or *tawardār*, as they are called, extract the matrix which is then washed in shallow pits lined with a blanket, the washers rolling the ore about with their feet. The clean pebbles are then arranged on the *khanna*, a mud platform, and are examined by men and women. When a number of stones has been collected, they are sent to Pannā to be valued, one-sixth of the value goes to the State.

Diamonds are classed as *banspati*, *motichur*, *kafiya*, *raktbarar*, *lagaya*, *kalua*, *matha*, and *ujal*. All stones over 6 *rattis* in weight are taken by the Darbār and one-sixth of the value of the diamonds given as reward to the *tawardār*.

Diamonds

<sup>1</sup>. Both appear to be hematite, but *dhaū* is more disintegrated than *kheri*.

**Iron.**

The ore is extracted from hill sides and also from shallow pits. The ore is smelted locally, the Darbār levying a duty of 2½ annas on each *marai* or buffalo load about 3½ maunds. Each digger makes from Rs. 3 to 4 a month ~~after~~ <sup>less</sup> the keep of his buffalo and all taxes. The ~~load~~ <sup>or</sup> or buffalo load is 8 annas.

**Castes engaged.**

The castes engaged in this industry are Telis, Kalārs, Sonārs, Kondāras and a few others. The industry is, however, moribund.

**Building Stone.**

No restrictions are placed on quarrying of building stone of any kind, or limestone.

**Section V.—Arts and Manufactures.**

No industries of any importance exist other than those already dealt with under minerals. The usual coarse cloth, oils, *ghī*, manufacture of household utensils and jewellery are carried on.

The manufacture of articles from locally smelted iron, once a flourishing trade, financed by local bankers, but has now almost entirely died out, owing to competition with imported goods. This industry was mainly carried on by Muhammadans who came over from Gwalior, and settled in Bijāwar when the iron trade was at its zenith.

**Section VI.—Commerce and Trade.**

Little is to be said under this head, as since the decline of the iron trade, nothing has taken its place. Want of good communications, and the rough nature of much of the State have made development in this direction slow.

Some trade in grain is carried on, but it is not yet extensive.

**Imports and Exports.**

The chief imports are tobacco, rice, sugar, salt, piece-goods and kerosine oil, all coming mainly from British India; the principal exports are *ghī*, *lac*, *chironji* (fruit of the *Buchanania latifolia*), catechu, *tilli*, *mahuā*, and various jungle products.

**Trade Centres.**

The chief centres are Bijāwar town and Panāgarh village in Bijāwar *tahsil*, Gulganj and Bhagwan in the *tahsil* of Gulganj.

**Mechanism of Trade.**

The castes engaged in trade are Sanātandharmis and Jain Baniūs, Telis and Kalārs, the two first deal in cloth, iron, *ghī*, etc., the latter in grain and other articles.

**Medium of Exchange.**

The Government rupee and *hundis* are mainly used in trade transactions, currency notes being unpopular.

**Carriage.**

The Banjāras still carry a considerable amount of trade, though the opening of roads and railways has reduced their custom, traders now sending goods in hired carts to the railway wherever metalled roads are within reach.

In all villages of any size a shop-keeper is found. These men are usually Baniūs by caste, who sell necessaries to cultivators and barter salt, sugar, tobacco, etc., for *mahuā*, *chironji* and other jungle products.

Village  
Shops.

In larger villages the Baniū is usually a money-lender, and finances most of the cultivators.

The most important firms are those of Hazārī Umre, Nandu Hazārī, Brijlal Kasbi, Bhawāni Prasād and Sabstukh Lodhi, whose capital is from Rs. 15,000 to 75,000.

Firms.

For diamonds and precious stones—

1 *Aisi* (linseed) = 1 *Buṭi*.  
20 *Bicas* = 1 *Ratti*.

WEIGHS  
AND  
MEASURES.

In the case of diamonds the *ratti* weighs half as much as the *ratti* used with gold and silver.

8 Rice grains = 1 *Ratti*.

6 *Rattis* = 1 Anna.

16 Annas = 1 Rupee (British).

Five different unit seers weights are in use: (1) *Teraiya* *ser* of 13 *takas* or 33½ rupees (British) used in weighing cotton yarn; (2) *Suraiya* *ser* of 17½ *takas* used in weighing metals. The *panteri* or five seer weight in this case is equal to 2 seers 14 *chhatkā* of standard weight. (3) *Chhattisa* *ser* of 36 *takas* or 95 British rupees used in weighing iron. (4) *Chālisa* *ser* of 40 *takas* or 103 rupees, also called the *lara ser*; *ghī*, gram, etc., are weighed with it. (5) Lastly, the standard seer of 30 *takas* or 80 rupees known as the *Tisāxa* *ser*. It is used for any article. This was only introduced into the State in 1873.

Article of  
bulk.

The *tala* is equal in weight to one *meta jaiza* of the British currency. In the case of number (1) above, no actual weights are made, the *tala* pieces being themselves used. In all other cases metal weights or seers are used.

Kerosine oil is measured in bottles containing  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a standard seer each.

Liquid  
Measure.

Grain is measured by capacity in vessels of the denominations given below:—

Measure of  
Capacity.

<i>Adhari</i>	... $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Seer.</i>	<i>Chauri</i>	..	2 Seers.
<i>Adhaq</i>	... $\frac{1}{2}$	"	<i>Addha</i>	...	8 "
<i>Paholi</i>	... 1	"	<i>Pela</i>	...	16 "

Two measures are in use, the English yard of 36 inches and the yard of 37½.

Length.

Two *jaris* are used, one of 100 feet long, the other of 66 feet.

Surface.

By *Lāth* or cubit of 22 inches.

Cubic  
contents.

Time.

The official year begins on July 1st, but that ordinarily followed by the people is the Vikram Samvat commencing on *Chait Sudî* 1st, now about April 1st.

#### Section VII.—Means of Communication.

Railways.

No railways actually pass through the State, but their effect in time of famine is appreciable. In the famine of 1896-97 no difficulty was experienced in obtaining grain for distribution.

Roads  
(Table XV).

Two metalled roads traverse the State, one from Bijâwar town to Mahatgaon on the Bânda-Saugor road (12 miles), and the Bânda-Saugor road itself which passes for a few miles through State territory. The ~~Bijâwar~~ road was constructed by the Darbâr at a ~~cost~~. All other roads are unmetalled.

Post and Telegraph.

An Imperial post and telegraph office has been opened at Bijâwar town and a branch at Gulganj, the nearest telegraph office being Chhatarpur.

#### Section VIII.—Famine.

##### (TABLE XXX.)

The whole State depends on the rain for its water supply, there being little artificial irrigation.

The country people have various ways of prognosticating a famine, which are illustrated by numerous sayings—

*Samaya ber kusamaya bhûjî.*

*If the ber bears fruit in season and vegetables fail (then the year will be a bad one).*

*Megh karonta legaye aur Indra bûndhgaye tek ;  
Ber makora yah kaken "Maran na paye ek."*

*The clouds have turned away (from us), and Indra has "rowed not to visit us, but the ber and makora have said, "None shall die."*

In years when all crops fail the ber and makora usually bear enough fruit to save people from starvation.

*Kuhî amâwas mangal mûl ann likai hain sone tûl.*

*Should there be amâwas and Mûl nakshatra on Tuesday, it is to be inferred that the grain rate shall be by the weight of gold (very dear) in that year.*

*Sawan pahili panchamî jo qarjai adhi rât,  
Tum jeho pia Mâluâ ham jehen Gujrat.*

*Should it thunder on the Sawan Badî 5th (July) at midnight, thou must go to Mâluâ, dearest, and I to Gujrat.*

That is to say, the famine will be so severe that husband and wife even must part.

In 1896-97 the State suffered severely from famine. The crops failed entirely at both harvests and the scarcity of fodder made it impossible to preserve the cattle, and the population was reduced to great straits. The Darbār borrowed 2 lakhs from Government for the purposes of affording relief. Works were opened and charitable relief given throughout the State, poor-houses being established in all places of importance.

Famine  
of 1896-97.

CHAPTER III.  
ADMINISTRATIVE.  
(TABLES XVI TO XXVII.)

Section I.—Administration.

**Chief.** The Chief is the head of the administration. In all matters of general import and in civil judicial suits he exercises full powers but in criminal cases his powers are restricted.

**Diwān.** The *dīcān* or minister is the principal executive officer to whom the chief delegates powers. He assists the Chief in all matters and submits questions of importance to him for final orders.

**Departments.** The principal departments of the administration are the *Ijlās-khās* presided over by the Chief, which is the final office of reference in all matters; the *Darbār-i-mualla* or *dīcān's* office: Revenue; Judicial; Police; Forest; Public Works and Sadr Treasury or Accounts.

The *Darbār-i-mualla* is in charge of the *dīcān*, the revenue of the revenue Inspector, the *nāzim* controlling the judicial, forest officer the forests, State accountant the treasury, and an overseer the public works.

**Official Language.** The official languages in the State are Hindi and Urdu. Orders are issued in both the languages but the revenue records and the accounts are kept in Hindi only.

**Administrative Divisions.** The State is, for administrative purposes, divided into four *tahsils* with headquarters at Bijawar, Gulganj, Ragoli and Karaiya. Each is under a *tahsildār*, who is assisted by a *nāib-tahsildār* and the usual office staff. The *tahsildār* is the chief revenue officer and a 3rd class magistrate and civil judge with powers to entertain suits up to Rs. 50 in value.

**Village Autonomy.** The principal personage in each village is the *zamindār* who collects the revenue receiving a commission of 2 per cent. for doing so. Under him were formerly the *kūtas* or makers of estimates whose important duty it is when the crops are ripe to appraise the quantity of the produce in a field.<sup>1</sup> In return for this they received diet money from the State. These people are now no longer employed. A *pattiārī* is in charge of a group of villages of which the aggregate income amounts to Rs. 4,000 or of a single village with this revenue.

A *chaukidār* is village watchman and acts in concert with the State police, getting Rs. 3 a month from the *Darbār*.

---

<sup>1</sup>. This practice will now cease as a revenue survey has just been completed.



Oaths. Hindus are sworn on Ganges water, Muhammadans on Kurān, Jains by Nemwīth and Chamārs on Madan or a cup of wine which they consider sacred.

Cost. The cost of the establishment is about Rs. 6,000 a year.

### Section III.—Finance.

#### (TABLES XVIII AND XIX.)

Until the State came under management no proper system of accounts existed. An accounts branch was then started and a regular budget introduced. All accounts are sent in to the Sadr Treasury where they are checked.

In 1897 the financial condition of the State was deplorable, the debts amounting to over 3 lakhs, while only Rs. 35 remained in the treasury. By 1904 all debtshad been paid off and a substantial balance left in the treasury.

Revenue and Expenditure. The total normal revenue from all sources is 2·3 lakhs excluding *jāgirs* of which 1·2 lakh was derived from land revenue, Rs. 21,000 from customs and Rs. 12,000 from tributes. The chief heads of expenditure are general administration Rs. 14,000, the Chief's establishment Rs. 36,000, public works Rs. 20,000 and police Rs. 12,000.

Coinage. Until 1879 when the British currency was introduced various local coins were current, the commonest being the *Ratanshāhī* of Ratan Singh struck at Bijāwar. This coin bore the words *Shāh Alam* on one side and on the reverse *Julus Maimanat Mānus*, with an *alif* and a palm tree. Its silver value was 9 annas. The remaining rupees were the *Farrukhābādī*, *Sikandarī* of Bhopāl, *Gajāshāhī* of Orchhī, *Datiāshāhī*, *Chanderī* of Gwalior and others.

Conversion. In 1879 the conversion into British coin was commenced when there was only 2 annas difference between the State and British coin. No trouble was experienced in the conversion.

### Section IV.—Land Revenue.

#### (TABLE XX.)

Early days. In early days the villages were given on farm to bankers who paid in the amount of their contract and made what they could out of the cultivators. Little or no control was exercised by the Darbār.

Present system. The State is the sole proprietor of the land, cultivators having only a right to cultivate so long as they pay the revenue.

A regular survey and settlement on the lines obtaining in British India have just been completed. Until this survey

was undertaken the assessment was made on the standing crop by the *kūtas* or appraisers by the *kānkūt* or eye estimate. The value so estimated was entered by the *patwārī* in his register, deduction being made and the rebate allowed to the cultivator for his labour.

The produce was then valued and a list called the *katot* drawn up and sent to every *tahsīldār* from headquarters where the *tahsīldār* and *patwārī* take possession of the value of produce due to the Dārbār in accordance with the *katot* or the share agreed upon. In certain cases share of produce was taken. This amount called *bhāg* is then sold and the revenue demand realised from the proceeds. The disadvantages of this system are many; the *kūtas* often cannot appraise a field in time and the crop suffers by waiting for its reaping. This system has already in part disappeared and will soon be wholly abolished and replaced by the lease system.

All money collected by the *tahsīldār* is paid into the State treasury at headquarters.

Suspensions and remissions are freely given in bad years.

Land is broadly divided into *kothār* or *khālsā* directly under the Darbār and *memārī* or alienated land held by *jāgīrdārs* and others.

*Jāgīrdārs* pay a portion of their revenue called *barbast* to the State in lieu of the quota of men and horses called *zābia* which they formerly brought into the field when called on to follow the Chief in war.

*Jāgīrdārs* can only adopt heirs with the Darbār's sanction, estates on holder's death being theoretically escheat to the State. Holders of *pādārakh* or revenue-free grants also pay a nominal sum on their holdings.

#### Section V.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

##### (TABLE XXI.)

The chief sources of miscellaneous income are excise and stamps.

No poppy is cultivated in the State and very little is consumed. A supply is obtained by purchasing from a British India dépôt.

Opium.

A little *gānja* is similarly purchased.

Other Drugs.

The only liquor consumed is that distilled from the *mahuā*. The right to distillation and vend is sold by auction yearly in each village. *Jāgīrdārs* make their own arrangements, on

Liquor.

receiving an *iżāt-nāma* or a permit from the Darbār for which they pay Re. 1.

Two classes of liquor are made; *pīṭāl* and *rūshī* which sell at 4 annas and six annas per bottle, respectively, in the districts and at double these rates in Bijāwar town.

The number of shops is 197 in *khālsā* area or one to every 5 miles and 500 people.

The average receipts from excise are Rs. 3,700 a year. No special officer is in charge, the revenue department dealing with all *abbārī* matters.

#### Stamps.

Stamps are used in the State courts and bring in about Rs. 2,200 a year.

#### Section VI.—Public Works.

This department was originally called the *kanthāna* department. In 1901, an overseer was put in charge with an assistant under him. All plans and estimates are made by the overseer and the repair of State buildings is in his charge. The principal works undertaken since 1901 are the Bijāwar-Mahatgaon road, and various minor constructions. The annual expenditure in this department is about Rs. 18,000.

#### Section VII.—Army.

##### (TABLE XXV.)

The State army consists of the Chief's bodyguard of 16 men, 24 sowars, 45 infantry, 35 State soldiers and 9 artillery men.

#### Section VIII.—Police and Jails.

##### (TABLES XXIV AND XXVI.)

In 1881 the police were first organised, seven *thānās* being established under an inspector, a sub-inspector and 84 constables.

The present force is composed of 81 men, giving one policeman to 11 square miles and 1,300 persons. Villages are watched by about 122 *chaukidārs* who act in concert with the police reporting all crimes to the nearest *thāna*. They also report all births and deaths.

Finger impression. A policeman has been lately instructed at Indore in the classification and registration of finger prints.

The police are armed with batons and inspector and sub-inspector with swords.

Jails. A jail has been established at Bijāwar town. *Davīs*, carpets, etc., are made there.

**Section IX.—Education.****(TABLE XXIII.)**

The first school was opened in 1864, which is located at the capital town. Four primary Hindi schools have also been established in the district.

**Section X.—Medical.****(TABLE XXVII.)**

A hospital was opened at Bijāwar in 1871, but was only put on a proper footing in 1892.

Vaccination is carried on at the hospital, about 3,000 persons being annually protected.

**Section XI.—Surveys.**

A survey for revenue purposes has just been completed.

---

CHAPTER IV.  
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS  
AND  
GAZETTEER.

**Bijāwar Tahsīl** :—This *tahsīl* lies round the chief town. It is bounded on the north by the Ragoli *tahsīl*, on the south by Pannā and the Damoh District of the Central Provinces, on the east by Chhatarpur and on the west by Pannā and the Gulganj *tahsīl*. The country is hilly and covered with jungle. The only streams of importance are the Biarma, Siamari and Bhognati. It has an area of about 314 square miles comprising 52 *khālsā* and 34 *jāgīr* villages.

The population was, in 1901, 23,711, of whom 22,258 or 93 per cent. were Hindus. The density was 76 persons per square mile.

Of the total area, 33,800 acres are cultivated forming 17 per cent. on the total area of the *tahsīl*. The larger villages are noted for their betel cultivation. The soil supports *kharif* crops principally.

The *tahsīl* is in charge of a *tahsīldār* who is the revenue officer and magistrate. The revenue amounts to about Rs. 26,000, of which Rs. 24,000 are derived from land.

The only metalled road is that from Bijāwar town to Mahatgaon, 12 miles in length.

The only large villages are those of Būjna ( $24^{\circ} 25' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 25' E.$ ), population 761; Kāri, population 533; Panāgarh, population 1,468, which is an important trade centre; Pipat, population 854, and Shāngarh, population 624.

**Gulganj Tahsīl** :—This *tahsīl* lies to the east of the State, being bounded on the north by the Orchhā and Chhatarpur States, on the south by the Saugor District of the Central Provinces and Pannā, on the east by Pannā and the Bijāwar *tahsīl*, and on the west by Orchhā and Pannā. It has an area of 266 square miles comprising 40 *khālsā* and 50 *jāgīr* villages. The country is not so hilly as that of the headquarter *tahsīl* and the soil is more fertile. The streams of importance are the Dhasān river, Kathin, Bela and Siamari.

---

N.-II.—The villages of the *tahsīls* have been re-distributed since the Census of 1901.

Population, in 1901, was 32,465 including 30,980 Hindus or 93 per cent.; density 122 per square mile.

Of the total area, 42,300 acres are cultivated amounting to 25 per cent. of the total area.

The *tahsildar* in charge is the chief revenue officer and magistrate. The revenue amounts to Rs. 30,400, of which Rs. 400 are derived from excise.

The Bānda-Sangor high road traverses the *tahsil*. A dāk-bungalow is situated at Gulganj and also an Imperial post office, a school and an encamping ground.

Places of importance with population are :—GULGANJ, 1,641; Abār, now deserted but still the site where an important fair is held in honour of Devī on *Jeth Sudī punam* (May); Angor ( $24^{\circ} 45' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 27' E.$ ), 1,923; Bamnaura, 1,344, a small fort stands here; Bhagwān, 1,325, contains a small fort and is a trade centre of local importance; Deorān, 651, a small fort and a State aided private school are located in this village; Dalipur, 943; Gorakhpura, 766; Jhagri, 583; Kānti, 331, a religious fair is held on *Kārtik Badī* 5th; Nimtoria, 899; SEDBRA, 1,039, this is a well-known place of Jain pilgrimage, lying 19 miles south-west of Bijāwar, the fair lasting from *Chait Sudī naumi* till *Baisākh Badī* 5th; Sarakna, 341, is noted for its quarry of white sandstone.

**Karaiya Tahsil** :—An isolated *tahsil* lying to the south-east of Bijāwar. It is surrounded by parts of the Pannā State and of the Damoh District of the Central Provinces; its villages are so scattered as to make it impossible to give precise boundaries. It has an area of about 92 square miles. The country in which the *tahsil* lies is covered with alluvium and the soil is of considerable fertility. The Biarma, Sunār, Kon, Patne and a few other small streams flow through it.

Population was (1901) 10,157, of whom 9,600 or 95 per cent. were Hindus; density 102 persons to the square mile.

Of the total area, 18,800 are cultivated, and 13,000 are culturable or 32 per cent. of the whole area. A *tahsildar* is in charge. The revenue of the *tahsil* amounts to about Rs. 25,700 derived from land. There are no metalled roads in this *tahsil*.

The principal villages in the *tahsil* with population are: KARAIYA, 661; Barbastpur, 492; Karia, 551; Kunwarpur, 611, a *thāna* and a school are located here; Patna, 500; Rehonta, 467; Tain, 562; and Toraha, 245.

**Ragoli Tahsil** :—This *tahsil*, the largest of the administrative divisions, lies to the north of Bijāwar. It is bounded on the north and east by Chhatarpur, on the south by Chhatarpur

and the Bijawar *tahsil*, and on the west by Charkhārī. It has an area of 301 square miles comprising 52 *khālsā* and 70 *jāgir* villages.

Population, in 1901, was 44,167, of whom 43,000 or 95 per cent. were Hindus. The density was 147 persons per square mile.

Of the total area, 41,800 acres are cultivated or 23 per cent. on that of the whole *tahsil*. The *tahsil* is in charge of a *tahsildār* who is magistrate and the chief revenue officer of the charge. The revenue of the *tahsil* is Rs. 42,100, of which Rs. 31,000 are derived from land revenue.

The Bānda-Saugor and Chhatarpur-Nowgong roads traverse parts of the *tahsil*.

The villages of any importance in the *tahsil* with their population are : RAGOLI, 1,707; Atrār, 810; Amronian, 651; Baganta, 618; Jangawan, 2,000; Mahatgaon, 1,108; the metalled road from Bijawar meets the Bānda-Saugor road at this village; Sati, 1,830; and Siloni, 890.

#### GAZETTEER.

**Bijawar Town, *tahsil* Bijawar.**—The chief town is situated in north latitude 24° 39' and east longitude 79° 32' at 1,200 feet above sea-level.

It is connected by a metalled road with the Bānda-Saugor high road which it meets at Mahatgaon, 12 miles from the town. It is 40 miles from Harpalpur station on the Jhansi-Mānikpur branch of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. It lies at the foot of a spur of the Pannā range in rough hilly country. The town is a collection of struggling houses which, with the cultivated area they enclose, cover nearly one square mile.

The foundation of the town is ascribed to Bijai Singh, a Gond chief. In the 18th century it fell to Chhatarsāl who gave it to his nephew, Narayan Dās. From Narayan Dās' family it passed about 1789 A. D. to Bir Singh and became the capital of the present State.

The town is divided into numerous wards usually called after the class which inhabits it. Thus the *Gicaliorganj* is so called from its having been inhabited by Muhammadans from Gwalior who were concerned in the iron trade. Since the decline of that industry this ward has lost its position ; *Ratanganj* called after Mahārājā Ratan Singh ; *Chamārpura*, etc.

No buildings of any importance stand in the town which contains a jail, a school, a hospital and a guest house.

The population of the town was in 1881, 7,192 ; 1891, 7,543 ; 1901, 5,220; males 2,679, females 2,541. Classified by

religions there were 4,233 or 31 per cent. Hindus, 21 Jains, and 966 Musalmāns.

The administration is not carried on by a municipality, but for the purposes of conservancy, a house-tax is levied which amounts to about Rs. 460 a year.

**Biya-kund, tāhsīl Bijāwar.**—A hot spring situated near Bājna village. This *kund* is a cave, lighted by a natural fissure in the roof. Inside is a pool of water, 50 feet long by 30 broad, to which a flight of rudely-cut steps leads down. A fair is held here on *Māgh Badī* 13th (January) which is attended by large numbers.<sup>1</sup>

**Gulganj, tāhsīl Gulganj.**—The headquarters of the *pargana* situated in 24° 43' N., and 79° 25' E., ten miles north-west of Bijāwar, on the Bānda-Saugor road. Population 1,641. It contains a ruined fort, the *tāhsīl* offices, a *thāna*, an Imperial post office, a dāk bungalow and a State village school.

**Karaiya, tāhsīl Karaiya.**—Headquarters of the *tāhsīl* situated in 24° 20' N., and 79° 54' E., 36 miles south-east of Bijāwar town. Population 661. It contains the *tāhsīl* offices, and a small fort.

**Patan, tāhsīl Bijāwar.**—A village lying in 24° 32' N., and 79° 32' E. Tradition has it that Birbal, the famous wit of Akbar's court, once resided in this village; indeed it is sometimes averred that he was born here.

**Piparia, tāhsīl Bijāwar.**—A village in 24° 27' N., and 79° 26' E. In *seho* or valleys near the village are some quaint paintings in red ochre called locally *Rakhal-ki-pulian* or the "praying dolls." They are certainly old and may be compared with those found at places in Rewah.

**Ragoli, tāhsīl Ragoli.**—The headquarters of the *tāhsīl* situated 8 miles north of Bijāwar in 24° 44' N., and 79° 36' E. The village stands on the edge of a fine lake. It contains the *tāhsīl* offices, a *thāna*, a school and an old fort. The population was, in 1901, 1,707.

**Sedhpā, tāhsīl Gulganj.**—A village in 24° 20' N., and 79° 16' E. It is a place of Jain pilgrimage, and is said to be referred to in their literature, in which the hill here is, it is stated, called Dondgir and the river now known as the Bilao, the Chandrabhāga. On *Chaitra Sudī* 8th, a Jain religious fair takes place lasting till *Baisākh Badī* 8th. Jains from all parts of India then assemble here. The spot is a most picturesque one.

**Shāhgārāh, tāhsīl Bijāwar.**—At this place which is situated in 24° 29' N., and 79° 39' E., there is a waterfall, several caves

---

1. C. A. S. R., XXI, 170.

used by *sūdhus*, and some red ochre drawings similar to those at Piparia. Forty years ago, this place was noted for its iron mines. The foundations of a fort called locally Gond, are visible. This place and its surrounding country was made over to the Bijawar Chief after the Mutiny, the Rājā of Shahgarh having rebelled. Population (1901) 624.

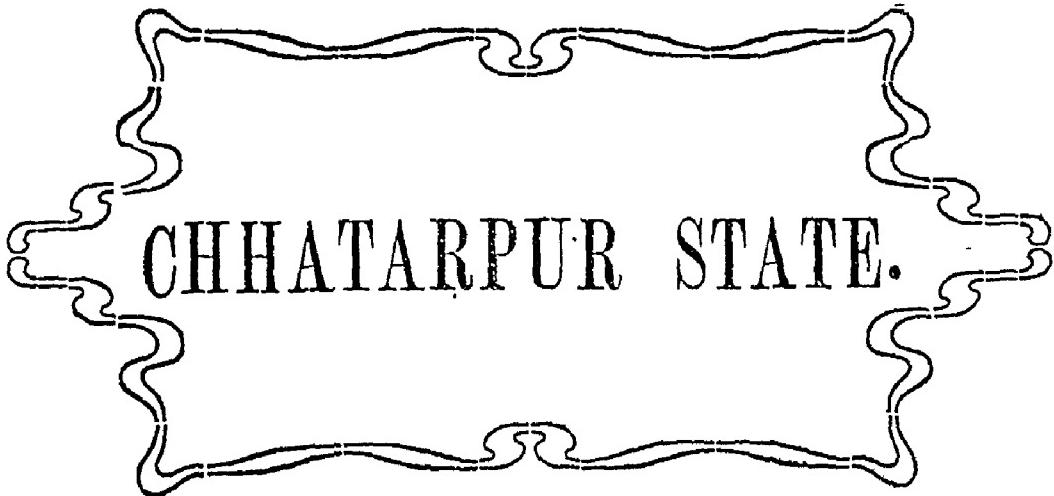
**TRANSLATION of a SUNNUD granted to RAJAH  
RUTTEN SING, the RAJAH of BIJAWUR—1811.**

Be it known to the chowdries, kanoongoes, etc., of the pergunnahs of Kuttolah and the pergunnah of Powey, in the province of Bundelcund ; that Whereas the deceased Rajah Kissery Sing, the late Rajah of Bijawur, one of the respectable hereditary Chieftains of Bundelcund, and a descendant of the Rajah Juggut Raj, since the period of the annexation of the province of Bundelcund to the dominions of the British Government, invariably conducted himself with obedience, submission, and attachment, and remained firm in his allegiance, and in no instance deviated from the loyalty and dutiful demeanour that was due from him towards the British Government ; and Whereas a Sunnud granting to the said Rajah the confirmation of the villages and lands in his ancient possession was promised to the said Rajah on the part of the British Government, as soon as the adjustment of the disputed claim that formerly existed with respect to the right to the tuppah of Isanagur took place ; and that point having been accordingly adjusted by the decision of the British Government ; and at this period, the aforesaid Rajah being dead, and the Rajah Rütten Sing, the eldest son and heir to the deceased Rajah, having succeeded by the sanction of the British Government to the titles and possessions of his father, has now delivered into the British Government an Ikrarnama or obligation of allegiance under his seal and signature, containing eleven distinct Articles, and requested a Sunnud from the British Government : Therefore the villages enumerated in the subjoined schedule, which were from ancient times in the possession of the deceased Rajah, and also those villages which were given to the aforesaid Rajah by the British Government, in addition to his former possessions, through the liberality of the British Government, with a view to confirm and bind his allegiance, together with all the rights thereof, land revenue, sayer, forts, and fortified places, are now confirmed to the Rajah Rütten Sing and his heirs in perpetuity, exempt from the payment of revenue ; and a Sunnud for the same is hereby granted. So long as the said Rajah and his heirs or successors shall remain firm to their engagements, and observe faithfully the terms of the several Articles of this Ikrarnama or engagement, no molestation or resumption of the above possessions shall take place on the part of the British Government. It is necessary that you all consider and account the said Rajah the Lord of the said possessions, and the conduct that is incumbent to the said Rajah and his heirs is, that he shall exert himself to the utmost to cultivate and improve the

said villages and lands, and to promote the prosperity of the inhabitants ; and enjoy the produce of the above possessions, in obedience, submission, and loyalty to the British Government. After the sanction of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council shall be obtained, another Sunnud to the same effect, signed by the Right Honourable the Governor-General, shall be exchanged and substituted in the place of the present Sunnud, granted by the Agent to the Governor-General, 27th March 1811.

Ratified by the Vice-President in Council on the 19th April 1811.

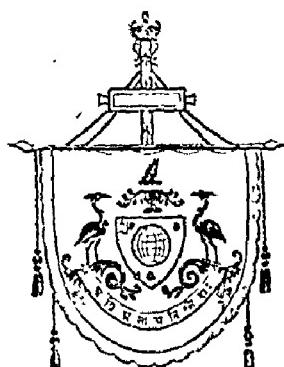
---



**CHHATARPUR STATE.**



## ARMS OF THE CHHATARPUR STATE.



**Arms:**—Murrey; a globe between three flames or; on a canton argent a palm branch proper in pale. **Crest:**—Wings endorsed or. **Supporters:**—Sāras. **Lambrequins:**—Murrey and or.

**Motto:**—*Agni pratāp vishveshah.* “As fire resplendent, Lord of the world.”

**Note.**—The arms are those of the Paramāras who, according to the old saying, owned the world, and are also Agnikulas descended from the fire pit at Abu. The canton and palm leaf refer to Khajrāho (*khajūr* is a date-palm). The motto in the first word names the section to which the Paramāras belong and in the last gives the name of the chief who ruled in 1877, Vishvanāth Singh. The wings refer to the wide rule of the Paramāras. The *sāras* is a sacred bird.

---









Sone Shâh  
(1785-1816).

The State of Chhatarpur was founded in the latter part of the 18th century by Kunwar Sone Shâh Ponwâr or Pârmâr, a retainer of Mahârâjâ Hindûpat of Pannâ, out of territories belonging to that State. On Hindûpat's death in 1776, his son Sarnat Singh was forced to leave the State and retired to his *jâgîr* of Râjnagar, near Chhatarpur. He died leaving a minor son, Hira Singh, whose guardian was Kunwar Sone Shâh Ponwâr, an officer of the State army. Taking advantage of the youth of his master, Sone Shâh seized the *jâgîr* about 1785, to which he added much territory during the disturbed period of the Marâthâ invasion.

From two *sarakas*, one granted by Sarnat Singh in Samvat 1839 (A. D. 1782), and the other by Sone Shâh in Samvat 1843 (A. D. 1786), it is certain the State must have been seized between these dates.

In 1800 Sone Shâh joined Diwân Puran Mal, the son of Râjâ Bije Bikramâjit of Charkhârî, in an attempt to oppose the advance of Nawâb Ali Bahâdur of Bânda. He was defeated, however, near Maudha and together with the other Bundelkhand chiefs became tributary to the Nawâb. On the establishment of the British supremacy Kunwar Sone Shâh's power was such as to make it expedient to purchase his submission by guaranteeing him in his possessions. He was, therefore, granted a *sarak* in 1806<sup>1</sup> by which certain lands, he then held, were secured to him, while other parts of Chhatarpur were reserved to the Nawâb. In 1808, however, these lands were also made over to him. Sone Shâh in 1812, divided his possessions among his five sons, of whom four—Pratâp Singh, Pirthi Singh, Hindûpat and Bakht Singh—were legitimate and one Hira Singh illegitimate.

Later on, at the instigation of the younger sons, a re-distribution was made by which the share of Pratâp Singh, the eldest son, was considerably reduced, while the younger sons were made independent of the Chief's authority.

The British Government disapproved of this second partition as unjust to Pratâp Singh and as opposed to its policy of maintaining the integrity of the Bundelkhand States, and it was ruled that on the death of his brothers, their *jâgîrs* should revert to the State.

Kunwar Sone Shâh died on May 4th 1816 (*Vaishâkh Badî* 5th 1873 V.S.) at the age of 75, and was cremated in Chhatarpur. Sone Shâh during his life built a temple at Ajodhia and a *kunj* at Bindrâban now called Tatti. These buildings are still kept up by the State. At Chitrakût he built a temple to Râmchandra, and the Dhanush-dhârî temple at Râjnagar.

1. See Appendix A.



but his only son died at 28 years of age in 1830 without leaving any issue. In 1852, Pratāp Singh wished to adopt Jagat Rāj, the son of his brother Bakht Singh, to the exclusion of Kunjal Shāh, the son of Pirthi Singh, who was considered to have forfeited his claims by the opposition offered to the absorption of the *jāgīr* on his father's death. The adoption was referred for the opinion of the principal Bundelā Chiefs, who considered it legal and good. The Court of Directors, however, objected to this mode of reference and before a decision was reached, Pratāp Singh died on 19th May 1854 at 70 years of age, while staying at Bāra near Cawnpore, while on a pilgrimage to the Ganges.

His cenotaph stands at Khajrāho where he established the big fair held there yearly in March.

Jagat Rāj  
(1854-67).

The Court of Directors finally ruled that Kunjal Shāh had no claims, the *sanad* of 1806 being only a life grant; while that of 1817 limited succession to lineal heirs male of Pratāp Singh, and that the adoption of Jagat Rāj would not, therefore, hold good.

In consideration, however, of the fidelity of the family and the good government of the late Chief, the Directors consented, as an act of grace and favour, to grant the State to Jagat Rāj under a new *sanad*, the succession being limited to him and his male descendants.

Jagat Rāj being only 8 years old, the Regency was entrusted to Pratāp Singh's widow (second wife). She was renowned for her liberality and many songs have been composed in her honour. Tho Rāni was at the head of the administration in 1857 and gave asylum and assistance to refugees from Nowgong. She, however, maintained peace in her territories by countenancing Dīwān Deshpāt, a notorious rebel leader, on whose head a price had been fixed, and even gave him asylum in Chhatarpur. For this conduct and mal-administration, she was removed from the Regency in 1863, a British Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E. Thompson, being put in charge of the State. Dīwān Deshpāt was attacked and killed by some Brāhmans of Doni village ( $25^{\circ} 7' N.$ ,  $79^{\circ} 44' E.$ ) and Thākur Vikramājīt. The Brāhmans were granted Mahiōl village as a reward and Thākur the *jāgīr* of Lakheri in Rājnagar *pargana*. Many reforms were introduced at this period and numerous improvements effected including the construction of roads, opening of schools, and other public buildings. In February 1867, Jagat Rāj was granted powers of administration but died on the 3rd November leaving an infant son, Vishvanāth Singh, 14 months old, who was recognised as his successor.

Vishvanāth Singh, the present Chief, was born on 19th August 1866. At the time of his succession Dīwān Tāntia Sāhib Gore was minister. His father Diwān Rao Prabhūkar Rao Gore (*alias* Dīwān Anna Sāhib), minister of Charkhārī, however, died, and Tāntia Sāhib resigned his appointment in order to succeed his father. The Dowager Rānī requested to be appointed Regent during the minority of her son, but the request was refused, and Rai Parmeshrī Dās, the Superintendent of Jignī, was put in charge. He was succeeded by Chaube Dhanpat Rai whose services were lent to the State by the Government of North-Western Provinces (now United Provinces).

In October 1867, Raghunāth Singh, a notorious Bundelā Thākur and the nephew of Diwān Deshpāt, rebelled, and commenced raiding in the State, being joined by other persons of the Hamirpur District. On June 14th, 1868, only a week after Chaube Dhanpat Rai's arrival in the state, he killed Kunjilāl, *tahsīldār* of Mau *pargana*, and three other persons, who were pursuing him and his followers in the jungles near Donī. On 23rd October 1868, on the information of one Buddhū Naddāf (carder), he was arrested. Raghunāth Singh together with his accomplice Sāligrām Brāhmaṇ was transported for life and the members of the Thākur's family were removed to Lahore and kept under surveillance. A somewhat severe famine occurred in this year which affected the finances considerably.

Many improvements were set on foot by Chaube Dhanpat Rai. *Bāndhs* were constructed and 34 wells were sunk, 6 or 7 tanks were repaired and a canal from the Jagat Sāgar lake was constructed for irrigation purposes.

In the year 1874, some land belonging to the village of Pipri, adjoining the Nowgong Cantonment was acquired by Government for the purpose of providing a suitable residence for the Political Agent in Bundelkhand and his staff, and for the erection of the Rājkumār College for the sons of Bundelkhand chiefs. Compensation was given for the land. Chaube Dhanpat Rai died at Chhatarpur on 12th May 1876 having managed the State for over seven years.

After Chaube Dhanpat Rai's death the management of the State was, as an experimental measure, entrusted for two years to the Dowager Rānī, at her special request, but not proving a success was abandoned in 1878. In 1877 the Rānī together with the minor Chief attended the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi. To defray the heavy cost large loans were taken and even the payment of all salaries stopped, while great difficulties were experienced in meeting ordinary expenses.

Vishvanāth  
Singh  
(1867-)

The attention of the Government being drawn to the condition of affairs, Munshi Chandi Prasad, Mr. Munshi of the Bundelkhand Agency, was appointed Superintendent.

Munshi Chandi Prasad, on taking over charge in 1878, found the State bankrupt, the treasury empty and the salaries of State servants many months in arrears. He rapidly paid off debts to the amount of Rs. 16,000, while Rs. 10,000 were paid to the State *patwāris*, this amount being due on account of *dāmī* (*gāvētri* fees) which had not been paid for many years. Great improvements were made in all directions. Jail industries, the manufacture of *daris*, carpets, paper, etc., were introduced, the schools and dispensaries established during the time of Colonel Thompson and Diwan Tantia Sahib, were put on a systematic basis, two girls' schools were also started in the town of Chhatarpur in 1885, and the first batch of students was sent up for the University Entrance and Central India Schools examinations. A Survey and Settlement Department was also established. The financial condition of the State improved rapidly and in 1883 savings amounting to two lakhs of rupees had been invested in Government paper.

A treasure of Rājā Pratāp Singh's day was said to be hoarded in a room at Rājnagar. A search was instituted and in 1881 it was discovered and found to amount to Rs. 7,18,255 in State coins and 5,000 gold *muhars*. Of this sum, 3 lakhs (British coin) were invested in Government paper.

The young Rājā married a daughter of the Mahārājā of Orchha in February 1881.

Many public works have been carried out: a large hospital built, a *sirci* erected on the Bāndā-Saugor road, now known as the *Naya-sarai*, stables, a distillery, barracks for the troops and other buildings.

Munshi Chandi Prasad who did not get on with the young Chief resigned in March 1886 after managing the State for nearly eight years, and Chaube Parmānand, B. A., then Head Clerk in the Bundelkhand Agency, was temporarily entrusted with the superintendency. Many important changes were effected. Mr. J. E. Dallas was appointed State Engineer and numerous public buildings were erected including the law courts, Darbā Hall and Jail. A European graduate (Mr. T. Morrison, afterwards Principal of the M. A. O. College at Aligarh) was appointed tutor to the Rājā, while an experienced accountant from Charkhāri State was put in charge of the accounts department.

In June 1886, the services of Munshi Chaturbhuj Sahai Deputy Collector, were lent to the State for two years, and he



Relations  
and Sardars.

The nearest relations of the Chief now living are his uncle, Diwān Sattarjīt, Lalla Umrao Singh and Lalla Pahār Singh. His cousins Lalla Kishor Singh, Lalla Keshu Singh, Lalla Debi Singh and Lalla Mohan Singh, sons of Balwant Singh, a deceased uncle, and Lalla Bijai Singh, son of Umrao Singh, Lalla Mahum Singh and Južhūr Singh, sons of Mādho Singh, a deceased uncle, and Lalla Raghunāth Singh, a son of Pahār Singh. All hold jagirs in the State.

Other important persons holding jagirs are Lalla Pahār Singh, jāgīrdār of Sindurkhi, Rain Naunhi Dulāia, jāgīrdār of Basuri, Diwān Kirat Singh, jāgīrdār of Bamari, Diwān Amān Singh, jāgīrdār of Imlia, Diwān Abir Singh, jāgīrdār of Bikrampur, Rao Bankat Rao, jāgīrdār of Maukari, Diwān Umrao Singh, jāgīrdār of Lālpur, Diwān Raghuṇāth Singh, jāgīrdār of Taltam, Diwān Amān Singh, jāgīrdār of Baroli, Diwān Bhān Singh, jāgīrdār of Pahāra, and Dikshit Mādho Rām, muqīdār of Bilehri.

## Archæology.

There are numerous archæological remains to be met with in the State, the most important collection of buildings being at Khajrāho where one of the finest groups of temples in Northern India is to be seen. At the old town of Mau, 10 miles west of Chhatarpur, once the seat of the Parihār Rājputs, many old buildings still stand. These, however, with the exception of a few Chandel remains including an undated inscription assigned to A. D. 1150 are all in 18th century style and of little archæological or architectural merit, having been erected in the time of Mahārājā Chhatarsūl. Several fine tanks in the State are attributed to the Chandella kings, of which the Jagat Sāgar at Mau, the Imlia-ka-talao at Rājnagar and Jhinnāstāl at Lauri are the largest.

At Manyagarh, on the west bank of the Ken river close to Rājgarh, which is 20 miles south-east of Chhatarpur town, stand the remains of an old fort which was originally one of the Ath Kot or eight Chandella strongholds for which Bundelkhand was famous. The ruins are now buried in jungle. It was probably called after Manya Dovī, who, according to the bard Chand, was a tutelary deity of the Chandellas.

At Rājgarh is the tomb of Colonel Leslie who was in command of the troops sent from Bengal to the assistance of Raghuṇāth Rao (Rāghoba) Peshwā in 1778. Leslie died here in October, the command passing to Colonel Goddard, who successfully conducted the troops to Poona.

Section III.—Population.  
(TABLES III TO VI.)

Three enumerations have taken place giving (1881) 164,369; (1891) 174,148; (1901) 156,139.

There was a fall of 18,009 or 10 per cent. in the last decade. Density for the whole State amounts to 140 persons per square mile.

The State contains one town Chhatarpur with a population of 10,029 and 421 villages; of the latter, 338 have a population of under 500; 57 of between 500 and 1,000; and 26 of between 1,000 and 5,000.

Of the whole population, 109,442 or 70 per cent. were born in the State. Of the rest 22,618 were born within the Bundelkhand Agency and 21,879 in the United Provinces.

These have only been lately collected. The returns for 1903-04 shew 3,888 births and 2,969 deaths or 24 and 19 per mille of population. In 1904-05 the births stood at 3,464 and deaths at 1,856 or 22 and 11 per mille. The returns are not of much value.

In 1901 there were 80,670 males and 75,469 females, or 935 females to 1,000 males, for the whole State, while in the urban area the ratio stood at 1,164 to 1,000 and in the rural area at 975 to 1,000. The ratio of wives to husbands was 970 to 1,000.

Classified by religions there were 148,343 or 95 per cent. Hindus, 766 Jains, 5,379 or 3 per cent. Musalmāns, and 1,651 Animists.

The prevailing form of speech is Bundelkhandī spoken by 102,698 or 66 per cent., Banāphari used by 22,854 and Hindi by 21,207 coming next in importance. Of the whole population 3 per cent. males and 0·1 per cent. females were literate. In Chhatarpur town 11 per cent. males and 0·6 per cent. females could read and write.

The principal castes were Brāhmans 14,241, Chamārs 13,304, Kūchhīs 12,572, Ahīrs 9,728, Rājputs 9,310 and Baniās 6,528.

Of the population, 34,207 or 21 per cent. are directly supported by agriculture, and 19,800 by general labour; 7,100 by carpentry; 3,560 by weaving; 4,000 by shoe-making; 3,000 by keeping cattle; and 2,500 by bamboo work and basket-making. Other occupations such as the army, domestic service, shop-keeping, tailory, etc., were followed by 1,000 to 2,000 persons.

Enumerations.

Variation and Density.

Towns and Villages.

Migration.

Vital Statistics  
(Tables V and VI).

Sex and Civil condition.

Religions.

Language and Literacy.

Castes.

Occupations.

**SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS.** The customs of the people are the same as elsewhere; the men wear *dhoti*, *angarkha*, *kurta* and *safa*, while the females generally use a *dhoti* which covers their entire body.

**Dress.** Food. The food of the poorer classes consists of *kulkī* (*Panicum miliare*), *sāmān* (*P. frumentaceum*), *kākun* (*Setaria italica*) and the fruits of the *mahnū* (*Bassia latifolia*), *achār* (*Buchananit latifolia*). The rich eat wheat, rice, gram, pulses, *ghī* and fruits; a few only eat flesh and drink liquor.

**Daily life.** Daily life. The trading classes are busy all the year round, while the cultivators have two months of leisure, after the gathering of the *unhārī* (rabi) crops.

**Houses.** Houses. Houses are generally of mud and thatched or tiled except at Chhatarpur town where several substantial *pakka* buildings appear.

**Marriage.** Marriage. Marriage ceremonials are the same as those observed in other parts of Bundelkhand.

**Disposal of the dead.** Disposal of the dead. Hindus are burnt, but Musalmāns and infants are buried.

**Holidays.** Holidays. The chief holidays observed are the same as elsewhere, viz., *Dasahra*, *Dusshāli* and *Holi*.

**PUBLIC HEALTH.** Public Health. Information on this head is available only for the last decade. An epidemic of cholera visited the State in the rainy seasons of 1894, 1895, 1896 and 1897. In 1895 and 1896 it was of a severe kind, 3,379 cases and 1,638 deaths occurring in the former, and 1,822, cases and 829 deaths in the latter year.

## CHAPTER II.

### ECONOMIC.

(TABLES VII TO XV AND XXVIII TO XXX.)

#### Section I.—Agriculture.

The country is mostly level or undulating, there being practically no hills except in the Deora *pargana*.

General conditions.

The soil varies in different parts of the State; that of the best quality being found in the Lauri *pargana*. In the Chhatarpur and Rājnagar *parganas* the soil is less productive. In the Deora *pargana* the ground is hilly and soil stony and unproductive.

The principal classes of soil are *mār* or *mota*, a loamy black soil of close grain, very fertile and retentive of moisture; *kābar* is in many respects similar to *mār*, but is of a lighter colour, is more sandy and less productive; *parua* is a light earth of a yellow colour requiring irrigation; *rānkar* is a very poor rocky soil; it is found chiefly on hill slopes and will grow only *kodon*, *kutki*, *jowār*, *urad*, and *tīlī*. It becomes exhausted after two or three seasons of continuous cultivation and requires rest.

Classes of soil.

The relative proportion in which the above kinds of soil occur in the State is as follows :—

<i>Mār</i>	...	8·97
<i>Kābar</i>	...	3·71
<i>Parua</i>	...	20·25
<i>Rānkar</i>	...	67·07
<hr/>		
		100·00

The less fertile *parua* and *rānkar* soils are sown first as they do not retain moisture for any length of time. *Mār* and *kābar* being retentive of moisture are suitable for *rabi* crops such as wheat, gram, barley, linseed and cotton, though *kodon*, *mūng*, *jowār*, *tīlī* and *arhar* are also sown in them.

Two seasons are recognized : the *kharif* or *siālu* season, lasting from May to November in which the cheaper classes of grain, *kodon*, *jowār*, maize, etc., and cotton are sown and the *rabi* or *unhālu*, lasting from November to March in which wheat, barley and gram are cultivated.

Seasons.

The cultivated area amounts, on an average, to 150,700 acres or about 21 per cent. of the whole. In 1901-02, it was 171,679 acres; in 1902-03, 150,718 ; 1903-04, 149,481 ; 1904-05, 149,729.

Cultivated Area and Variations (Table IX)

Agricultural practice.

Operations commence generally on *Baisākh Sudī* 3rd or *Akha-tij*, except in the Deora *pargana*, where the inhabitants belong mostly to the wild tribes, and preparations for ploughing begin when the first rain falls. *Jeth Badi amāwas* called the *lāc bārsat* is always observed as a festival, all then cook the best food they have, eat it themselves and give some to the ploughmen. No other ceremonies are carried out.

The charge for ploughing a *bigha* for the *Hariṣ* crop amounts to from Re. 1 to Re. 1/8 and for *rabi* crops from Re. 1/8 to Rs. 2/8.

Sowing.

The field is first roughly ploughed to clear it of weeds, etc. As soon as rain commences it is ploughed up twice or thrice so as to thoroughly admit the rain. The seed is then sown in the furrows (*harāit*).

For the *rabi* sowings a field is ploughed constantly until it has absorbed all the moisture possible when it is sown after a final ploughing. *Sūmān*, *tarara*, *kākun*, *wad*, *tili*, *kutki*, *can*, *jauār* and *dhān* are scattered broadcast by hand. Barley, *pissi*, *nāsūr* and *sarson* are sown by hand by a man following the plough. Gram, *alsi* and wheat are sown through a *nāli*, a hollow tube fixed to the plough through which the seed is dropped into the furrows by a man following behind it.

A field in which *tili* and *kutki* are to be sown is ploughed twice before it is divided into furrows and sown. A field in which *rabi* crops are to be sown is ploughed twice in the months of *Sāwan* and *Blāden*, the land then becomes *takia* as it is called. It is then ploughed twice again in the months of *Kumār* and *Kārtik* before being sown. As a general rule cotton, *rāmān* and *basara* are sown in the month of *Jeth* before the setting in of the rains. On the commencement of the rains in the *Ardra nakshatra*,<sup>1</sup> *Ledon*, *kākun* and *mūng* and in the *Purārasu nakshatra*, *dhān* and *wad*; in the *Puchya nakshatra* the fields are tilled and prepared for the sowing of the *rabi* crops and in the *Aslesha* and *Magha* nakshatras, *tili*, *kutki*, etc., are sown. The sowing of the *rabi* crops commences in the month of *Kunitār* (September-October), gram being sown in the *Chitria nakshatra*, wheat in the *Svāti*, barley, *pissi* and *latia* in *Vaisōkh*; *zira* and other spices are sown in the month of *Mōgh* sugarcane in *Phāgun*; betel in *Chait* and *chīra* in *Baisākh*. No feast is held at sowing time. But during the prevalence of the *Ardra nakshatra*, when the *khāris* sowings commence cultivators boil a mixture of gram and wheat called *kuli*, and eat it with *gur* (molasses) also distributing some to friends and offering a little in the name of the gods on the roofs of their houses.

1. One of the 27 asterisms in the moon's path by which all agricultural operations are regulated.



is not used as manure. From 50 head of cattle about 30 maunds of manure is obtainable in four months.

**Irrigated crops.**

Irrigation is chiefly confined to *rabi* crops and garden produce and is carried on by means of the *tarea* or bucket lift or *rahat* (*rahant*) or Persian wheel from wells and by channel irrigation from tanks.

**Diseases and pests.**

Locusts occasionally do damage, and after a year of deficient rainfall rats are always most destructive, owing to the young broods escaping drowning. Red blight or *gerua* appears at times.

**Agricultural implements.**

The chief implements used are the *hal* or plough, *lalkar* or weeding plough, *pata* or log for smoothing ploughed land, *katania*, *hansia* or sickle, *khurpi* or hoe, *phāori*, an iron spade, *pacha*, a wooden spade, *kholia*, *chari*, *lakuri*, and *tirai*.

**Cropped area.**

The normal area sown is about 178,900 acres, of which 130,300 acres are sown at the *kharif* and 48,600 acres at the *rabi*, about 28,200 being double cropped.

**Crops at each harvest.**

The most important *kharif* crops are *kodon* (42,300 acres), *tili* (24,200), *sāmān* and *basara* (21,700), *jowār* (17,500) and *dhān* or rice (4,100); at the *rabi* barley (30,100 acres), gram (7,300) and wheat (6,700) are the most important.

The principal crops are at the *kharif* or autumn season *kodon* (*Paspalum stoloniferum*), *tili* or *tili* (*Sesamum indicum*), *sāmān* (*Panicum frumentaceum*), *jowār* (*Sorghum vulgare*), *kukki* (*Panicum miliare*), *urad* (*Phaseolus radiatus*), *dhān* or rice (*Oryza sativa*), *kapās* or cotton (*Gossypium indicum*), *kākun* (*Setaria italica*), *mūng* (*Phaseolus mungo*), *san* (*Crotalaria juncea*), *rāli* (*Panicum milaceum*) and *makka* or maize (*Zea mays*); and at the *rabi* or spring season *jacea* or barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), *chana* or gram (*Cicer arietinum*), *gchān* (*kathia*) or wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), *pissū* or soft red wheat, *alsī* or linseed (*Linum usitatissimum*), *batra* (*Pisum sativum*), *masūr* (*Eruca lens*), *bijore*, *carcon* (*Brassica campestris*), *arhar* (*Cajanus indicus*).

**Staple food grains.**

The staple food grains are *kodon*, *sāmān* and *basara* in the rains; *jowār* from November to March, wheat, gram and barley from March to June.

**Subsidiary food crops.**

The pulses *urad*, *mūng*, *masūr* and *arhar* are the subsidiary food crops.

**Oil-seeds.**

*Tilī*, *alsī*, *carcon* and poppy seeds are used for expressing oil.

**Fibres.**

Cotton and *san* or hemp are the only important fibre plants.

**Garden produce.**

The chief spices grown are *zīra* (cumin), *dhania* (coriander seed), *haldi* (turmeric), *mirch* (chillies); the chief fruits and

vegetables cultivated are *bihī*, *amrud* or *jām* (the guava), *singhāra* (water nut), *sharīṣa* or *sītāphal* (custard apple), *nimbū* (lime), *nārangi* (orange), *kharbūza* or *musk melon* (*Cucumis melo*), *tarbūza* or *kalinda*, the water melon (*Citrullus cucurbita*), *ām* or mango (*Mangifera indica*), *ratālu* or *yam* (*Dioscorea*), *suran* or *zamīnkand* (*Arum campanulatum*), *baingan* (*Solanum melongena*), *ghūtiñ* or *arri* (*Arum colocasia*), *purmar* (*Trichosanthes dioica*), *bhindī* (*Abelmoschus esculentus*), *kela* or *plantain* (*Musa sapientum*), *phadkuli* or *ghīa* (*Cucurbita lagenaria*), *kumkra* (gourd), *khīra* (*Cucumber*), *sem* (*Dolichos lablab*), *bathra*, a potherb (*Chenopodium album*), *khurja*, *naurpa* or *kulpla* (*Portulaca oleracea*), *pālk* (a potherb), *methi* (*Trigonella foenum gracuum*), *mūlī* or *mūrī* (radish), *karela* (*Momordica charantia*).

A very small quantity of poppy is grown in the State for the manufacture of opium.

The average quantity of seed required and the yield in maunds per *bigha*<sup>1</sup> for each crop is as follows :—

Stimulants.

Seed and Yield.

Crop.	Seed in Seers.	Yield in Maunds.	Crop.	Seed in Seers.	Yield in Maunds.
Kodon	5	4	Makka	...	2
Tilt	2	2	Barley	...	5
Sāmān	4	3½	Gram	...	4
Basara	4	3½	Wheat ( <i>pissi</i> )	25	4
Jowār	3	3½	Wheat ( <i>kathia</i> )	25	4½
Kutki	4	2	Alsi	...	1½
Urad	4	2	Batra	...	4
Dhūn	15	3	Maūr	...	2½
Kākun	2	3½	Bijhra	...	4
Kapūs	5	2½	Sarson	...	1
Mung	3	2	Poppy	...	1½ Sr.

Sugarcane is of two classes: (1) a small species called *barāhi* or *unkh* (*ukh*) and (2) a larger species called *ganna*, *paundu* or *sānta*.

There are two seasons for sowing this species in the month of May, *tarōhis* sown in this season are called *sahia*; and in the month of March when it is called *kusahia*. The process of sowing both *sahia* and *kusahia* is the same.

*Preparation of land*.—First the field is ploughed and well irrigated. After this it is ploughed again twice over and then manured. It is then ploughed again and a log (*pata*) is drawn over it to make it even. A deep wide furrow is now made on

SPECIAL CROPS.  
Sugarcane.

(1) Ukh.

1. One acre = 2 3125 *bighas*.

one side of the field by attaching between the body (*larii*) and the share (*kusia*) of the plough, a piece of wood pointed at the upper end and circular at the lower end.

The *barāhis* seedlings previously raised are placed in it lengthwise, care being taken that the sprouts on each joint point upwards. When the *barāhis* have been placed in position throughout the whole length of the furrow they are superficially covered with pulverised manure, and then parallel to the first furrow, a second furrow is made in the same way as the first. The earth turned out by making this second furrow serves to fill in the first and cover the *barāhis*. Furrows are thus made till the field is finished. For irrigating, the field is divided into plots with a wooden implement something like a spade in shape called a *pachia*. As soon as the shoots are about a span high, the field is again ploughed and then watered. After this the earth round the plants is loosened with a hoe from time to time and watered till the rains set in, when it is left until the time for reaping arrives.

*Preparation of cuttings.*—When the time for sowing *barāhis* draws near, the husbandman cuts down the seed-*barāhis* left in the old fields, pulls off the leaves taking care not to destroy the sprouts at the joints, and then puts them into a pit dug close to the field. The dimensions of this pit are about 7 feet long, 6 feet broad and 4 or 5 feet deep. The pit is filled with a solution of goat's dung in water. When the *barāhis* are well soaked with this solution, they are covered with goat's dung manure, earth and sugarcane leaves, and are kept in this state for 10 to 15 days when they are ready for planting out.

(2) Santa or  
Ganna.

The method for preparing land for this species is practically the same as in the case of the smaller species. The preparation of cuttings is done in the following manner:—The husbandman cuts long pieces of sugarcane from the old field and brings them to field where they are to be planted. On the border of this field a big earthen vessel with a wide mouth is kept ready filled with a solution of goat's dung, assafoetida, orris root and water. The canes are cut into small pieces, each about a span and a half in length, and are steeped in this solution. Furrows are then made with a hoe (*khurpi*) and the pieces of cane are taken from the earthen vessel and planted in it. These pieces of cane are then covered with manure and finally with earth. When the whole field has been planted it is irrigated. As soon as the stems are about a span high, it is weeded twice, the whole field being dug up with a *khurpi*, and manure mixed with earth is applied round the lower part of the stem of each plant. Watering takes place after an interval of four or

five days. When the rains set in, watering, weeding and digging are stopped, except when the plants are not developed or any grass grows in the field, when it is finally weeded and dug up and fresh earth is applied to the stems. During the rainy season the cultivator is required to keep a careful watch over his fields and preserve the canes from being up-rooted and destroyed by pig, porcupine and other animals. Sugarcanes are cut with a sickle, their cutting usually commencing from Kārtik Sud 11th known as the *Neo-uthan Ekādash*, or the date on which Vishnu rises (*uthan*) from his four months slumber.

The total area under sugarcane cultivation in the whole State is about 75 acres, of which about 12 acres are occupied by the large species called *paunda*, and about 63 acres by smaller species called *barāhi*. This cultivation is confined to the Chhatarpur and Rājnagar parganas.

The ordinary value of a crop and the average expenses per bigha in each of the two parganas above are as follows :—

Pargana.	PAUNDA.		BARĀHI.	
	Total average value of crop per Bigha.	Total average expenses per Bigha.	Total average value of crop per Bigha.	Total average expenses per Bigha.
Chhatarpur ...	Rs. 76 0	Rs. 58 10	Rs. 49 0	Rs. 26 0
Rājnagar ...	40 0	39 0	25 0	21 0

The detail of expenses per bigha in each pargana per each species is as follows :—

DETAILS.	CHHATARPUR.		RAJNAGAR.	
	Paunda.	Barāhi.	Paunda.	Barāhi.
Cost of seed ...	Rs. 30 0	Rs. 2 0	Rs. 16 0	Rs. 4 0
Preparation of land ...	2 0	2 0		
Weeding and digging	12 0	3 0	4 0	6 0
Cost of reaping, etc.,	10 0	8 0		
Watering ...	1 8	9 0	16 0	8 0
Canal water rates ...	1 2	0 0	...	...
Land rent ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	3 0
TOTAL ...	58 10	26 0	38 0	21 0

**Poppy**

The best soil for poppy cultivation is irrigated garden land. It cannot be grown in an unirrigated soil. Its cultivation commences in the middle of *Kūnvar* and ends at the end of *Kārik*. At first the ground is well prepared by repeated ploughing. Then it is divided into plots or beds by a wooden *pachia* or an iron spade, after which pulverized manure mixed with earth is spread over each plot. Then the poppy seeds mixed with pulverized dry earth in the proportion of 1 to 8 are scattered over the plots. Finally, the beds are loosened with a scraper and more seed is scattered upon them. The field is then watered. When the shoots each bear two leaves, the field is weeded, and if the plants are too close together, the superfluous plants are taken out. After this, several waterings and diggings are necessary before the plants reach maturity which they do in *Māgh* (February). The capsules are scarified in the evening and the juice is collected the next morning. This process is continued for about a fortnight, till all the available juice is collected, each capsule being scarified several times. The quality and quantity of drug mainly depends upon the skill with which the operation is performed. The cultivators then make over their whole produce to the State officials and are paid at a fixed rate according to quality. When the capsules are dried, they are plucked by the hand and the poppy seeds are threshed out with a stick.

**Progress.**

No new implements or appliances have been introduced and land area in cultivation is unchanged. No new varieties of seed have been tried, as the cultivators say that the seed of other localities does not suit the soil of this State.

**Irrigation.  
General  
conditions.**

The total irrigated area amounts to about 41,400 acres. The Rūjnagar *pargana* is the most favoured with 20,500 acres of irrigated land, Chhatarpur being next with 14,700, Lauri third with 5,300 and Deora last with only 900. Irrigation is mainly confined to *rabi* crops, no irrigation being required for the *kharif* as, even if the rain is scanty, these crops cannot be raised by means of artificial irrigation. The special crops which require irrigation are barley, *pissi*, gram, *batra*, *masur*, *china* and garden produce. Betel, sugarcane and poppy also require artificial irrigation.

**Sources.**

The principal sources of water are wells, tanks and *bāndhs*. The usual water lifts used are the *tarsa* or bag lift and *rahat* or Persian wheel in the case of wells, and channels and the *dhikuri* and *chhāpa* with tanks.

The *dhikuri* in some places called *dhenkli* is a counterpoise lift consisting of a lever supported on a high post with a bucket suspended to one end and a counter-balancing weight of earth

or stones on the other. A man works it by raising and lowering the lever.

A *chhāpa* consists of a basket slung on two ropes. A hole is sunk on the side of a tank at the extremity of a channel; two men then sit down on opposite sides of the hole and swing the basket in and out of the water, emptying the full basket into the channel leading to the field.

The cost of constructing a well depends on the nature of the soil. The average cost of a masonry well is about Rs. 150, and of a *kachcha* or earthen well about Rs. 45.

Wells.

On an average, one well irrigates about 8 *bighas* (3·46 acres).

The number of wells in the whole State is 10,647 and tanks 60.

The average cost of irrigating a *bigha* (.43 acre) of land for ordinary *rabi* crops is Rs. 4 from a well and annas six from a canal. But for the land where betel leaves are grown, the average cost amounts to Rs. 180.

Water is of two classes, sweet and brakish. The latter is considered more valuable for agricultural purposes than the former.

As the cultivators own the wells, no water rates are levied in this case. Water from the Jagat Sāgar tank, however, is supplied at the rate of annas 13 per *bigha* watered.

Rates.

No special local breed exists in the State though cattle from the banks of the Ken known as *keniya* are considered the best. The agricultural classes, however, keep cows and rear plough bullocks, sheep, goats and buffaloes. The average price of a pair of bullocks is Rs. 40, and of a pair of buffaloes Rs. 20.

Cattle.

Pasture is ample in normal years and no difficulties are experienced in feeding cattle.

Pasture.

The prevalent cattle diseases and the measures taken to cure them are given below :—

Cattle diseases.

*Gurphuta* (in some places called *Baida*).—Bread made of *urad* flour and oil is given and the animal is kept standing in mud, sometimes *sarson* and bark of *rusa* tree (*Streblus asper*) pounded together are given, or the animal is made to drink oil and is branded on the ribs. *Bhonra*.—Hair from a bullock's or cow's tail, and pounded tobacco mixed with hot water are administered and the animal is branded. *Patakua*.—Bark of *salaia* tree (*Boswellia serrata*) and pickled mangoes moistened in water are given, and the animal is also branded. *Sohāgpuri*.—The animal is branded on the chest, ribs and forehead with the back of an axe made red-hot, and the roots of *kirkichwān* and *ajwain*

(*Lingisticum ajowan*) are given to it. *Cow-po.e.*—*Deul* (gram split and cleared of its husks) moistened in water is given, and the goddess (*Devī*) is worshipped and propitiated. *Hardua*.—*Haldi* (turmeric), *gur* (molasses) and the flour of gram are administered and the animal is branded. *Tilchar*.—*Kāli-mirch* (pepper) and *ghī* (clarified butter) are given, and the affected part is branded.

Cattle fairs  
(Table  
XXVIII).

No special cattle fairs are held but animals are bought and sold at the usual fairs and markets.

Agricultural  
population.

About 90 per cent. of the State population live on agriculture. The classes chiefly engaged are Brāhmans, Thākurs, Lohis, Kurmis, Kāchhis, Chamārs, Bhāts, Ahirs, Gadarias, Baniās and Telis.

Takkāvi.

Advances in the form of *takkāvi* loans are made by the State to the cultivators. These are repaid in easy instalments, fixed according to the circumstances of the cultivator, and bearing interest at 6 per cent. per annum. These loans are granted for the purpose of digging wells or agricultural implements either on property or on adequate security. The State also gives seed advances to cultivators, which are recovered at the harvest with addition of one-fourth, the original quantity as interest, a system known as *sawain* or  $1\frac{1}{4}$ .

## Section II.—Wages and Prices.

### (TABLES XIII AND XIV.)

As a general rule, day labourers, village artizans and servants are not now paid in kind, but agricultural labourers are still paid in kind at the rate of one *gattha* or bundle of grain a day. This *gattha* also called *dabia* or *puri*, contains as much grain as is equivalent to a cash wage for one day.

Material  
condition,

The material condition of this class is not good. They generally live from hand to mouth, often being able to afford only one meal a day. Their usual dress consists of an *angarkha* or *achkan*, a *kurta* and *pajāma* (trousers) of *nainsukh*, long cloth or *malmal* (muslin), a *dhotī* of *lathu* and a *sūsa* of muslin. As bedding they have a *toshak* of *gazi* cloth, a *razāi* or *palli* and sheet. Their household furniture comprises a bed and a few metal utensils. Their meals consist of bread made of *pissi* wheat, gram or barley flour, rice, *dāl*, *ghī* and vegetables.

Cultivator.

The condition of the cultivator depends entirely on the seasons, a year of famine or a succession of poor seasons means distress, often of an acute description, and results in the sale of cattle and even household utensils. In normal years he is, if

not opulent at any rate, able to live and enjoy small luxuries. He is, however, always in debt being often burdened with debts left by his father and grandfather, while inability to lay by and extravagance at marriages and other ceremonies keeps him bound to the money-lender.

Cultivators wear an *angochha* of coarse *gazi* or *lattha* cloth to cover their heads, a *dhoti* or loin cloth and a *mirzai* or short coat reaching to the waist of the same cloth often padded. As bedding they have a *doria* or *kammal* (blanket) and a *khor*, a sort of *razai* but not padded with cotton. The household furniture comprises a bed and the necessary cooking utensils. As food, they use the cheaper grains—*sāmān*, *basara*, *kodon*, *kutki*, *kākun*, *jorcār*, etc. Gram and wheat are only eaten as luxuries. They also use buttermilk.

The day labourer lives practically from hand to mouth, and though owing to a diminished population, his services are of more value than formerly and wages higher, he cannot be said to hold a very enviable position. He wears an *angochha* of *gazi* cloth to cover the head and a *dhoti* of the same cloth. The *mirzai* or short coat, is rarely worn as he generally remains naked above the waist or wraps himself in a sheet of coarse material. As bedding he uses a piece of cloth spread over straw from *kodon* called *piār*, which has a remarkable power of emitting warmth. His food consists of *kodon*, *sāmān*, *basara*, *jorcār*, *mahuā* and *ber* fruit.

In the districts, no very perceptible rise or decline has as yet taken place in the standard of living. In towns and large villages, the influx of people from outside and the spread of education have begun to create a desire among the middle classes to raise their standard of living specially with respect to dress and household furniture, though their scanty means do not permit them to make any great advance.

### Section III.—Forests.

#### ( TABLE IX. )

The forests of the State are not very valuable. Such as they are, however, they are divided into three classes. The first class comprises timber trees, such as *sāgon* or teak, *scja*, *tendū*, *sāj*, etc.; the second class, *mahuā*, *achār*, *khair*, *pīpal* and *jāmun* chiefly used for their fruit; and the third class, less valuable trees, such as *ber*, *makor*, *ghont*, etc.

The State forests are in charge of the State forest officer who acts directly under the orders of the Darbār, and supervises the work of the *multaldis* and *banrakhis*. The *banrakhis*

Day labour-  
ers.

Control.

are forest rangers who watch the forests and report all information relative to the jungle to the forest officer.

The public are allowed to graze their cattle within their village grazing limits and to take wood for their daily use gratis. For wood required in making agricultural implements they pay at the rate of four annas per plough. The wild tribes in the Deora jungles are allowed to cut wood and sell it free of charge. Fruits of all kinds can be gathered free of duty. No part of the forest is reserved.

In times of scarcity people are allowed to cut grass and wood anywhere free of any charge. Edible roots of many sorts are dug up by the people, the principal being known as *behchāndī*, *bireñī*, *angītha*, *semainiān*, *gangelunia* and *kānd*.

Certain plants possessing medicinal properties are also gathered, the chief being *kirūra-kī-phalī* which has a purgative effect; *maiñar* which cures wounds and boils; *pīpar* or *pīpal*, the bark of the *pīpar* tree boiled in water which is given to cattle as a cure for constipation; *bilāikand*, *safed musli*, *saimar* and *sitācar* are all strong tonics. *Mirchia-kand* and *norā-panjī* are used as antidotes for serpent bites; *phul-katū*, the juice from the leaves of this plant mixed with *ghī* is used to cure cataract in the eyes of cattle; *gatāin* or *damjari* cures sover.

Runds. Certain areas called *rūnds* are reserved for their grass.

Revenue. The reserved grass jungles cover an area of about 125 square miles.

The average revenue from the forests and jungles is about Rs. 5,000 a year, the expenditure on establishment being about Rs. 3,000.

No attempt at afforestation has as yet been made, though occasionally *babūl*, *shīsham* and *sāyon* are planted in open spaces in the jungles.

Jungle Tribes. The Kondars, Sones and Gonds generally live and work in jungles. The wages given to a man are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  anna, to a woman one anna and to a child nine pies, for a day's work.

Trees. The trees commonly found in the State together with the uses to which they are put are given below:—

Vernacular name.	Botanical name.	Uses.
------------------	-----------------	-------

*name.*

Achār ... *Buchanania latifolia*, Fruits eaten; the kernel of its stone is known as *chironji*.

Aila ... *Cesalpinia sepiaria*... Timber made into charcoal which forms an important constituent of country gunpowder.

Vernacular name.	Botanical name.	Uses.
Am	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Fruits eaten; timber used as fuel; in buildings, and in making agricultural implements.
Babūl	<i>Acacia arabica</i>	Timber used in making agricultural implements and buildings; leaves used in tanning leather.
Bahera	<i>Terminalia belerica</i>	Fruits used in medicine and in dyeing.
Bāns	<i>Dendrocalmus strictus</i> , and other varieties.	Used in buildings and making baskets, mats, etc.
Baria	<i>Ficus indica</i>	Fruits eaten, tree worshipped.
Bel	<i>Aegle marmelos</i>	Sacred to Shiva to whom the leaves are offered; fruits used medicinally in cases of dysentery.
Ber	<i>Zizyphus jujuba</i>	Fruits eaten; timber used in buildings and making agricultural implements.
Bibi or Amrūd,	<i>Psydium guava</i>	Fruits eaten.
Bijo	<i>Pterocarpus marsupium.</i>	Timber very strong. Its sār or pith called <i>bijesār</i> by raids is used in medicine. This wood does not burn easily. Indian drum frames are made of it and some agricultural implements.
Chbinla or Dhūk,	<i>Butea frondosa</i>	Timber used as fuel. Flowers called <i>tesū</i> are used for extracting a yellow colour.
Dhūmin,	<i>Greicia tiliifolia</i> or <i>vestita</i> .	Timber used in making carriage shafts and <i>kānwars</i> (sticks carried on the shoulders with load at each end).
Dhawa	<i>Anogeissus latifolia</i> ,	Timber used in buildings and for agricultural implements; leaves used in tanning leather.
Ghont	<i>Zizyphus xylopyera</i> ,	Fruits used in tanning leather; leaves used as fodder for goats.

Vernacular name.	Botanical name.	Uses.
	name.	
Gunjā ...	<i>Bridelia retusa</i>	Timber used in making agricultural implements and combs and bark in making frames for sieves.
Imli ...	<i>Tamarindus indica</i> ,	Fruits eaten; timber used in buildings.
Ingua ...	<i>Balanites roxburghii</i> ,	The kernel of its fruit is useful in colic.
Jāmun ...	<i>Eugenia jambolana</i> ...	Fruits eaten; timber used as fuel.
Kaithi ...	<i>Feronia elephantum</i> ,	Fruits eaten; timber used as fuel.
Karaunda	<i>Carissa spinarum</i> ...	Fruits eaten.
Kāri ...	<i>Saccopetalum tomentosum</i> .	Timber used in making carriage shafts and kānwars.
Khair ...	<i>Acacia catechu</i> ...	Its wood is cut into small pieces and boiled. The juice thus extracted is made into khair or kattha, "catechu," which is used in chewing pān (betel leaves). Its timber is also made into charcoal.
Kirwāra,	<i>Cathorllocarpus fistula</i> ,	Pods or beans used as medicine, generally in purgatives.
Kouha ...	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> ...	Timber used in making boats.
Kusam...	<i>Schleichera trijuga</i> ...	Used in dyeing.
Mahuñ...	<i>Bassia latifolia</i> ...	Timber used in buildings and agricultural implements ; flowers used as food by the poor and in distilling country liquor. Its seed affords a useful oil.
Makoi ...	<i>Zizyphus ornoplia</i> ...	Only fruits eaten.
Nim ...	<i>Melia azadirachta</i> ...	Timber used in buildings. Oil is extracted from its seeds. The tree bears many medicinal properties and is considered very useful.
Ounri ...	<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> ,	Fruits variously eaten ; timber used in roofing.
Pāpro ...	<i>Gardenia latifolia</i> ...	Timber used in making combs ; bark in making frames for sieves.

Vernacular name.	Botanical name.	Uses.
Pipal or Pipar.	<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	Tree worshipped; fruits eaten. Leaves form fodder for camels. Lac is cultivated on this tree.
Reonja	<i>Acacia leucophleba</i>	Wood for posts, pegs; young pods eaten as vegetables.
Sāgon or Teak,	<i>Tectona grandis</i>	Timber used in buildings and in making chairs, tables, boxes, etc. Leaves and seeds are used as drugs.
Saimar	<i>Bombax malabaricum</i> ,	Its pods produce a silky down. It is used in padding pillows and bedding.
Sāj	<i>Terminalia tomentosa</i> ,	Wood used in agricultural implements.
Salaia	<i>Boswellia serrata</i>	Timber used in making combs.
Sāndan,	<i>Ougeinia dalbergioides</i> ,	Leaves used as cure for dysentery.
Seja	<i>Lagerstroemia parviflora</i> .	Timber used in buildings and agricultural implements made of it.
Shahtūt,	<i>Morus nigra</i>	Fruits eaten; timber used in buildings, etc.
Sharifa or Sitāphal,	<i>Annona squamosa</i>	Fruits eaten.
Sihūrū	<i>Boehmeria macrophylla</i> .	Wood used for roofing. A yellow colour is extracted from its flowers.
Sirsā	<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	Wood used as fuel.
Tendū	<i>Diospyros tomentosa</i> ,	Timber used in making agricultural implements and fruits eaten. Its pith gives abony.
Umar or Gūlar,	<i>Ficus glomerata</i>	Tree worshipped; fruits eaten; timber used as fuel.

A curious superstition exists in the Deora *pargana* regarding the *chitāwar* tree.

In the Deora *pargana* there is a hill called Deora-Deo, the top of which is said to be scattered over by thousands of iron bracelets. Tradition runs that on the peak of this hill which is very difficult to get at, there stands a solitary *chitāwar* tree. A mere touch of its timber will break any piece of iron. None can now get at it as it is guarded by devils. The iron bracelets scattered on the hill are said to be of those rash persons who attempted to take its timber and who had taken up these iron

bracelets that they might first test its virtues. Their quest, however, always failed, for the devils slew them and no man who had looked upon the tree ever returned to tell his tale.

#### Grasses.

Many useful grasses are found in the State, the most important being *dhanian* (*Coriandrum sativum*), *mathna*, *samai*, *kans* (*Imperata cylindrica*), *moti* (*Andropogon muricatus*), *sonta*, *rohus*, *gunar*, *parnea*, *musal*, *mujhana*, *bandar-pun-chha*, *gandhli* (an *Andropogon*), *gilwa*, *garru*, *kantti*, *phulna*, *tampia*, *laria*, *tilia*, *ladar*, *dutha* (*Cynodon dactylon*), *bhajji*, *zira* (*Andropogon martinii*, *nardus* and other varieties), and *lesa*. Of these the first three—*dhanian*, *mathna* and *samai*—are used as food by poor classes in famine; *kans* for thatching the roofs of houses and making ropes; *moti* is used for thatching and its root is the *klas khas* of which *tattis* are made during the hot weather; *sonta* is used by betel leaf growers to shade their plantations. From *rohus* and *zira* an oil is extracted. The rest are used as fodder for cattle.

#### Section IV.—Mines and Minerals.

No mines or minerals of importance exist in the State. Formerly iron was worked to some extent in the Deora *garana*, but the industry has almost entirely past away.

#### Section V.—Arts and Manufactures.

No very important arts or industries are followed. The most important which are mentioned below only serve to supply local needs. Oil, *ghī*, soap, *gazi* cloth, *tat-pattis*, country paper, carpets, rugs, *daris*, *newār*, vessels of brass, pewter and iron, coarse cutlery and blankets are made locally. The manufacture of carpets, rugs, *daris* and *newār* are new industries and have been introduced into the State only during the last 20 or 25 years. They are mostly carried on in the State jail. Printing on various fabrics, carving in wood, inlaying and lacquer work are also to some extent practised by private individuals.

#### Section VI.—Commerce and Trade.

Trade is not in as prosperous and flourishing a condition as it was formerly. In early days before new roads and especially railways had carried commerce elsewhere, [the trade in salt,] sugar, paper, soap and *tat-pattis* was very extensive. But all these trades have decayed, while no new trade has taken their place. Many bankers and merchants have become bankrupt, while others finding no profitable work have gone elsewhere.

#### Exports.

The principal exports are *tili*, *ghī*, betel leaves, linseed, *zarson*, *zira*, raw cotton, *mahuā* flowers and fruit, soap, *chironji* (seed of *Buchanania latifolia*), lac, *tat-pattis*, gum, bees-wax and honey.

The principal imports are rice, piece-goods, hardware, metals and metal goods, grain, grocery, salt, tobacco, sugar, molasses, spices, etc.

Imports.

Most of the export and import trade passes to and from Cawnpore *via* the Harpalpur and Mahoba railway stations.

The jungle produce of the Deora *pargana* is chiefly exported to Katni-Murwāra station. Goods are also imported to a small extent from Bombay and Delhi.

The chief centres of trade in the State are Chhatarpur, Rājnagar, Laurī, Mahārājpur and Malahra.

Trade Centres.

The market towns of the State are Chhatarpur, Mau, Malahra, Mahārājpur, Rājnagar, Laurī, Munderī (Munrerī), and Kishangarh. The markets at Chhatarpur and Rājnagar are held twice a week, at Chhatarpur on Wednesday and Saturday, and at Rājnagar on Tuesday and Thursday. The average attendance of sellers and buyers at the former place is about 1,000, and at the latter about 300. At other places markets are held only once a week, the average attendance of sellers and buyers being about 500 at Laurī, 300 at Munderī, 200 at Kishangarh, 400 at Mau, 1,500 at Malahra and 1,000 at Mahārājpur.

Market Towns.

These weekly markets are chiefly distributing centres, but Malahra and Mahārājpur also serve the purpose of gathering centres.

The chief articles of distribution are food grains, salt, molasses, sugar, vegetables, spices, betel leaves, earthen vessels, coarse cloth and other articles of local production of every day use. The sellers are local Baniās, Telis, Bharbhūnjas, Tamolis, Kunjras, weavers, carders, potters, etc. They are generally traders with very small capital, who either make what they sell or else purchase articles from big firms in towns and bring them for sale to these markets. The buyers are residents of the village or town where the market is held and of neighbouring villages.

The castes and classes mainly engaged in commerce are Baniās, Agarwāl, Gahoi, Piparsanias, Asatis, Jains and Muhammadans, etc. They deal in grain, cloth, spices and *ghī*. Telis deal in oil, Muhammadans in European stores and Tamolis or Barais in betel leaves.

Mechanism of trade.

In the three *parganas*—Chhatarpur, Rājnagar and Laurī—shop-keepers are found in almost all villages excepting the smallest. In the Deora *pargana*, they are found only in a few of the largest villages. The shop-keeper is generally of the Baniā,

Shop-keepers.

Teli, Kalur or Bharbhūnja caste. He usually sells flour, pulses, molasses, salt, tobacco, gram, sugar, parched grain, etc.

He is not entirely a distributor, however, buying local produce such as *ghī*, *māhmī* flowers, *sarson*, cotton, etc., from agriculturists and exporting them to neighbouring towns and markets for sale to agents of big firms.

Ordinarily these shop-keepers do not lend money, but some make advances to Ahirs, Gadaras and agriculturists with a view to buying *ghī*, grain, etc., from them, at rates below the bazar rate.

#### Pedlers.

Although retail sellers do not hawk their wares from house to house, they attend different village markets and local fairs.

#### Trade Routes.

There are no railways in the State, the principal trade routes being the roads from Chhatarpur to Satna and Harpalpur and to Mahoba and Banda *rii* Hamirpur where the railway is met. Some traffic passes along the Chhatarpur-Saugor road. Goods are carried either by country carts or pack animals. Many of these carts ply simply for hire, but most agriculturists have their own carts and generally carry their own produce to the markets, and bring from other places what they think will afford a fair profit.

#### Consumption of imported articles.

No great increase is observable in the consumption of imported articles, except in regard to piece-goods, small articles of luxury and especially kerosine oil. In former days people of the lower orders, who used to wear only country made coarse cloth, have grown accustomed to European piece-goods and the general standard has risen. Kerosine has become an essential article of daily use with all classes. Up to fifteen or twenty years ago only a limited number of people in the State used kerosine, but its importation has increased by leaps and bounds and now almost every house in the State burns it.

To buy fine cloth, the villagers generally go to Chhatarpur, Nowgong or Mahoba or to some large commercial fair such as those held at Khajrūho and Charkhūri. They can get no cloth in their own villages except coarse country cloth.

#### Local Firms.

The chief local firms are those of Debidas Bhairvālāl; Bibūrilāl Bheron Prasād; Barelāl Kāmīta Prasād; Hakim Dalmīt Khān; Sulle; Bhagwāndās; Maganlāl Piparsania; Beni Prasād; Mānik Baya. They are the chief collecting and distributing agencies of the State.

#### Capitalists.

The number of big capitalists in the State is about 20 ; 15 having from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 75,000, and 5 from Rs. 75,000 to 1,50,000. They belong mostly to the castes of Baniās and

Brahmans. They are independent merchants trading with their own capital. No firms confine themselves strictly to the work of banking, but some ten firms do business mainly in lending money. The usual practice for men of capital is to act at the same time as money-lenders, bankers and merchants.

Weights used for precious stones and precious metals such as gold and silver are :—

	WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.
8 <i>Chānwals</i> (rice)	= 1 <i>Rattī</i> .
6 <i>Rattīs</i>	= 1 <i>Anna</i> .
8 <i>Rattīs</i>	= 1 <i>Māsha</i> .
16 <i>Annas</i> or }	= 1 <i>Tola</i> (Britishrupee).
12 <i>Māshas</i> }	

These weights are also used in weighing medicines.

Weights for articles of bulk and such metals, etc., are :—

	Avoirdupois.
4 <i>Bālāshāhī Paisas</i>	
or	}
5 <i>Tolas</i>	= 1 <i>Chhatāk</i> .
4 <i>Chhatāks</i>	= 1 <i>Paua</i> .
4 <i>Pauas</i> or	
16 <i>Chhatāks</i> or }	
64 <i>Bālāshāhī Paisas</i> }	= 1 <i>Seer</i> .
5 <i>Seers</i>	= 1 <i>Panseri</i> .
8 <i>Panseris</i> or }	
40 <i>Seers</i> }	= 1 <i>Maund</i> .

These weights are used in selling and buying alkali, coffee, cotton, rice, spices, molasses, sugar, etc.

Rolls of cotton yarn, thread, etc., are sold by the following weights :— Yarn, etc.

2 <i>Chhatāks</i>	= 1 <i>Adhapai</i> .
2 <i>Adhapais</i> or }	= 1 <i>Paua</i> .
4 <i>Chhatāks</i> }	
4 <i>Pauas</i>	= 1 <i>Seer</i> .

In this measure one seer is equal to 24 *Bālāshāhī paisas* in weight, while a seer of standard weight is equal to 64 *Bālāshāhī paisas*.

The actual weights are usually made of stone, or the *Bālāshāhī paisas* themselves are used.

Measures used with liquids are varied. That for wine is given below :—

Measure of Capacity.	
2 <i>Pauas</i>	= 1 <i>Addhi</i> or half bottle.
2 <i>Addhis</i> or }	= 1 <i>Bottle</i> .
2 <i>Half Bottles</i> }	
16 <i>Bottles</i>	= 1 <i>Gagari</i> .

Measures for oil and milk are :—

2	<i>Addhis</i>	=	1 <i>Chhatāk</i> .
2	<i>Chhatāks</i>	=	1 <i>Adhapai</i> .
2	<i>Adhas</i>	=	1 <i>Pana</i> .
2	<i>Panas</i>	=	1 <i>Adhasera..</i>
2	<i>Adhaseras or }</i>	=	
4	<i>Panas</i> } }	=	1 Seer.

For oil these measures are usually made of wood, and for milk, of brass measuring one *pana*, or a brass *lota* measuring half-a-seer to one seer is used. The weight of liquid contained in these measures varies with the liquid but approximates to the standard weight. Sometimes an earthen pot measuring one *pana* is used instead of a brass vessel.

Measure for small quantities of oil and ghi is :—

2	<i>Addhi Kias</i>	=	1 <i>Kaja</i> .
---	-------------------	---	-----------------

A *kaja* is equal to one-eighth of a seer by weight and is usually made of earth. Large quantities of oil and ghi are bought and sold by the ordinary measures of weight (Avoirdupois).

Grain is measured by the following table :—

4	<i>Polis</i>	=	1 <i>Chauri</i> .
4	<i>Chauris</i>	=	1 <i>Adha</i> .
2	<i>Adhas or }</i>	=	
8	<i>Chauris</i> }	=	1 <i>Pela</i> .
32	<i>Pelas</i>	=	1 <i>Gond (Gawm)</i> .

A *gond* is made of gunny bag and is as much as can be carried by a pack bullock. The *pela* and *chauri* are made of wood or brass. A *chauri* contains rather more than  $1\frac{1}{4}$  seer weight of grain. These measures are used only in villages ; in towns the usual measures by weight are preferred.

Measures of length. The English standards are generally used in this case, except the *kos* which is equal to 3 miles.

Cloth, however, is measured as below :—

3	<i>Anguls</i>	=	1 <i>Ginah</i> .
4	<i>Girahs</i>	=	1 <i>Bālisht</i> or span.
2	<i>Bālishts</i>	=	1 <i>Hāth</i> or cubit.
2	<i>Hāths or cubits</i>	=	
or		=	1 <i>Jard</i> .
16	<i>Girahs</i> }	=	

Raw cotton, *daris*, raw silk, carpets, *newār*, cotton ropes and hemp, etc., are sold by weight, tape and cloth by length.

The measures of surface generally employed are:—

20	<i>Kachwānsis</i>	=	1 <i>Biswānsi</i> .
20	<i>Biswānsis</i>	=	1 <i>Biswa</i> .
20	<i>Biswas</i>	=	1 <i>Bigha</i> .

One *bigha* equals to '34 acre.

Land is always measured by the above measures.

A cubic hand or a cubic foot is the standard unit for measuring masonry work, timber and earth work. Measures by cubic contents.

The native system is still followed in villages, but in Chhatarpur town and large places the European method is followed. Measure of Time.

#### Native System.

60	<i>Bipals</i>	=	1 <i>Pal</i> .
60	<i>Pals</i>	=	1 <i>Gharī</i> .
60	<i>Gharīs</i> or <i>Dand</i>	=	1 <i>Day</i> .
7	<i>Days</i>	=	1 <i>Week</i> .
15	<i>Days</i>	=	1 <i>Pākh</i> .
2	<i>Pākhs</i> or }	=	1 <i>Month</i> .
30	<i>Days</i> }	=	
12	<i>Months</i>	=	1 <i>Year</i> .

The Vikrami Samvat year commencing on *Chait Sudī* Official year, 1st (March or April) is generally adhered to, but the State official year commences on 1st July.

#### Section VII.—Means of Communication.

Though no railway actually passes through this State, it is only 33 miles distant from the capital and about 14 miles from the boundary and had marked influence in times of famine, and on prices. In the famine of 1896-97 great assistance was derived from the railway in facilitating the importation of grain and no difficulty was felt in obtaining supplies.

Railways.

Before the opening of the Jhansi-Mānikpur section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, the prices of food grains, *ghī*, oil were considerably lower than at present but were subject to much greater fluctuations. People in towns and even in villages close to the railway line now require a much higher standard of comfort than they formerly did owing to improved circumstances.

In religious matters railways have affected observances to a certain extent in making it impossible to adhere strictly to rules of association with persons of a lower or impure caste, and the regular performance of daily ceremonies.

The Government metalled road from Bānda to Saugor and Harpalpur to Nowgong and Agra to Satna and Mahoba to Laurī

Roads  
(Table XV).

and Chandla traverse the State. The road from Mahoba to Lauri is partly a State road. Avenues of trees are a special feature of the roads, the Darbār having planted over 15,000 trees along different routes.

**Ferries.** There are ferries on the Ken at Shāhghāt and Pātan in the Rājngar *pargana*, and at Khariani-Palkohān in Deora *pargana*. At Shāhghāt there is a masonry causeway, and boats ply only in the rainy season when the river is in flood.

**Vehicle.** The mail contractor on the Chhatarpur-Nowgong line uses sprung and tyred tongas for the carriage of the mails and passengers, otherwise the public use only country carts of ordinary pattern. The Darbār possesses sprung carriages of English make.

**Post and Telegraph (Table XXX).** A combined Imperial post and telegraph office has been opened at Chhatarpur and a branch post office at Rājngar.

### Section VIII.—Famine.

(TABLE XXX.)

Famine has always been produced by a failure of both crops owing to defective rainfall. Scarcity has occasionally been caused by excessive rain in certain localities.

Villages in the Deora *pargana* which are situated on the top of the Vindhya range where there are no wells are most liable to scarcity and famine, owing to the rocky nature of the soil. The most important crops being those of the *kharif* such as *sāmān*, *lasara*, *jowār*, *kodon*, *kukī*, *kākm*, etc., which form the staple food grain of the poorer people, a failure of the *rabi* crops does not affect the general population so much as the failure of *kharif* crops.

Early famines recollectcd by people in the State were those of Samvat 1888 or 1831 A. D., when it is said that the *kharif* crops were destroyed by locusts, while rainfall was insufficient; that of Samvat 1890 or 1833 A. D., when the wheat crops were injured by rust causing scarcity; that of Samvat 1891 or 1837 A. D., in which the *kharif* crops failed; that of Samvat 1925 or 1868 A. D., when a failure of the rains caused famine; that of Samvat 1930 or 1873 A. D., when the wheat crops were completely destroyed by rust and there was scarcity; and that of Samvat 1934 or 1877, when there was again scarcity.

**Famine of 1896-97.** The only famine of which records exist is that of 1897 or Samvat 1953. Owing to an early cessation of rains, all the *kharif* crops with the exception of *jowār* were completely destroyed. During the famine year of 1897 A. D., a few hundred people only died of actual starvation but the mortality from diseases attacking a weakly population amounted to over 2,000.

The vital statistics of the State are not very reliable, and nothing can be said as regards the reduction or increase of the birth-rate during famine years. Relief works were opened and poor-houses established at various centres in the State.

Remission and suspension of revenue were granted to cultivators and landholders and *takkāri* loans were freely given. The total cost to the State was Rs. 1·1 lakh, of which Rs. 61,000 was spent on relief works and Rs. 6,000 on charitable relief.

---

## CHAPTER III. ADMINISTRATIVE. (TABLES XVI TO XXVII.)

### Section I.—Administration.

#### The Chief.

The Chief exercises full powers in all general administrative matters and in civil judicial suits. In criminal cases his powers are restricted.

#### Minister.

Next to the Chief is the minister or *dīwān* who is the chief executive officer. In criminal matters he has power to decide all cases excepting such cases as can only be decided by the Chief himself. He hears appeals from the *nāzim*. In civil matters suits of a value of over Rs. 5,000 are tried by him as original suits. Suits of the value below Rs. 5,000 are also filed in his court as original suits when the litigants are, owing to their impoverished condition, unable to pay the costs of litigation. Otherwise all such cases are preferred in the lower court. In revenue and administrative matters he has full powers delegated to him except in certain special cases when the sanction of the Chief is necessary.

#### Departments of the ad- ministration.

The principal departments of administration in the State are the *Darbār Khās* presided over by the Mahārājā; the Darbār office presided over by the *dīwān*; the Revenue and Accounts departments; Police; Education; Medical; Public Works and Army.

#### Darbār Khās.

The *Darbār Khās* is presided over by the Chief himself, while all other departments are under the supervision of the *dīwān*, though for general purposes, each department is superintended by its own departmental head.

#### Staff.

The staff at the headquarters of the State consists of the *dīwān* (minister), a revenue officer and head accountant. A *nāzim* who exercises the powers of a magistrate of the first class and is empowered to hear suits up to the value of Rs. 5,000; an assistant surgeon who has the charge of the medical department; the head master of the high school who controls and superintends the educational department; an inspector of police; a sub-overseer for the public works department and a forest officer.

#### The Official Language.

The official languages in the State are both Hindi and Urdu. All revenue records and accounts are kept in Hindi, while orders are usually issued in Urdu.

For administrative and revenue purposes, the State is divided into four *parganas*, each in charge of a *tahsildar* who is directly subordinate to the Darbār. The four *parganas* are those of Chhatarpur comprising a part of the northern and central tracts of the State, with its headquarters at Chhatarpur; Rājnagar comprising portions of southern, eastern and central tracts of the State, with its headquarters at Rājnagar; Lāuri comprising the eastern and a part of the northern tract of the State, with its headquarters at Lāuri, and Deora in the southern and hilly districts of the State, with its headquarters at Deora.

Every village has its *zamindār*, *patwārī* and *chankidār* who are responsible for the maintenance of order in the village. The *patwārī* keeps the accounts and land records and collects dues and revenue. The *chankidār* keeps watch and ward, looks to the sanitation of the village, reports cases of crime to the nearest police station, helps the police in the investigation of cases and also carries letters and messages for the *zamindār* and *patwārī*. No special functions are assigned to a *zamindār* who acts only as the headman of the village and presides over all gatherings.

## Section II.—Law and Justice.

### (TABLES XVI AND XVII.)

During the time of Kunwar Sone Shah fines were used in all cases, even when murder had been committed, these were often very heavy practically ruining the person on whom they were imposed. Persons of position guilty of very heinous crime were imprisoned in the Kishangarh fort. Persons found guilty of adultery and other serious crimes had their faces blackened and were mounted on asses and expelled the State, the woman with whom adultery was committed being also exiled. No regular system existed, everything depending on the will of the Chief or the presiding officer of the court.

No special legislation has been made. The Chief in consultation with his *dūdārī* issues circulars and orders which have the force of law and deal with the procedure of the courts. The British Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code followed, while other British Acts are used as guides in principle.

The courts of *tahsildārs* exercise original jurisdiction only, while those of the *nādām* and the *dūdārī* are both original and appellate. The *Darbār Khā* of the Mahañja is mainly a court of appellate jurisdiction, but in heinous criminal cases it also acts as a court of original jurisdiction.

Administrative divisions.

Village Administration.

Early days.

Legislation.

Courts.

## Civil.

The lowest civil courts are those of the *tahsildārs* who are empowered to hear suits not exceeding Rs. 200 in value except the *tahsildār* of Chhatarpur, who has no civil powers. The *nāzim* is empowered to hear suits up to Rs. 5,000 in value, his decision being usually considered final in cases not exceeding Rs. 50 in value; he also hears appeals from the subordinate courts.

The *dīwān* hears all suits of over Rs. 5,000 in value and also suits under Rs. 5,000 in value, when the parties are too poor to pay the costs; he hears appeals from the *nāzim*.

The Chief sitting as High Court hears appeals against the decisions of the *dīwān*.

## Criminal.

The *tahsildārs* are magistrates of the 3rd class. The *nāzim* is a 1st class magistrate, and can award imprisonment up to two years and a fine of Rs. 1,000, while sentences of Rs. 50, or one month's imprisonment, are considered non-appealable. He also hears appeals from the *tahsildārs*. The *dīwān* deals with all cases beyond the power of the *nāzim* except such serious offences as require to be dealt with by the Chief. The Mahārājā sitting as a High Court is empowered by a *sanad* granted in 1894 to try heinous offences subject to the proviso that all sentences of death are to be referred to the Agent to the Governor-General for confirmation, and that a periodical report of all cases involving transportation or imprisonment for life, is made to the Political Agent.

## Registration.

Rules for the registration of documents have been lately introduced, 35 were registered in 1903-04 and 44 in 1904-05 of a respective value of Rs. 3,467 and Rs. 3,443. Sale deeds predominated.

Value of  
suits.

The average value of property litigated about during the year is Rs. 20,000, fees amounting to about Rs. 800.

## Section III.—Finance.

## (TABLES XVIII AND XIX.)

## Early days.

During the time of Kunwar Sone Shāh and Rājā Pratāp Singh, the most important items of income were land revenue, fines and *nazarāna*; and the most important item of expenditure, the army. As the old records are not forthcoming, no idea of the actual state of affairs can be given.

During the minority of the present Chief when the State was under British management, the total income from all sources was about Rs. 2·8 lakhs, and the total expenditure under all heads about Rs. 2·4 lakhs, while at present the total income is about 4 lakhs and the total expenditure about 3 lakhs.



pays the customary share of the produce. He may also sell, mortgage or alienate the well or embankment together with the hereditary privileges it entails, which thus practically amount to proprietary rights.

*Thaka* lands consist of such *khālsā* villages as are farmed out for a term of years on fixed conditions. The *thekādārs*, as they are called here, contract with the State to pay a fixed sum of money annually in discharge of the revenue demand for the villages they hold, and to observe certain conditions. So long as they observe these conditions they are considered the owners of the land actually held by them and their tenants, and also of uncultivated land sufficient for the grazing of the village cattle. The remainder of the tillable land, however, with its produce, groves, tanks, etc., belongs to the State. In this class of tenure, the State has nothing to do with cultivators. It has concern only with the contractor. But if the contractor is oppressive to the cultivators who are subjects of the State, the State has the option of cancelling the contract. These farms are granted sometimes for one year only, and sometimes for periods of five or ten years.

The *jūgīrdārs* hold their land under an obligation to do military service if called upon, and also bind themselves to perform certain duties such as preventing dacoity or theft in their lands and neighbourhood. They are called *māmārā* and are required to pay annually a small sum of money as tribute called *barbast* to the State, and to keep their *zābstā* or military contingent ready. They are also, as a rule, required to attend a *darbār* together with their *zābstā* three times a year; on the full moon of the month of *Sāwan* (August), on the *Dusāhra* day (October) and on the occasion of the Khajrāho fair (February or March). If they fail to attend with their *zābstā* on these occasions, a fine is levied on them.

#### Assessment.

As no settlement has been made, assessments are made in one of those ways known as *kūt*, *bhāg*, *harankā*, *thēnsā* and *darbandī*.

*Kūt* or "appraising" is a system by which the produce of the field is estimated before it is cut and the cash value of a share of produce, already settled between the State and the cultivator, is taken as revenue. In this system when the crop is ripe and about to be harvested, the *zamindār*, the *patwārī*, an official from the *tahsīl* and one or two respectable inhabitants, either of the same or some other village, proceed to the field and make an eye estimate of the produce. If the cultivator does not agree to the estimate thus made by the appraisers, a servant of

the State called *ahila* is appointed to guard the field and when the crop is harvested and taken to the yard, the produce is weighed and the cash value of the State's share taken.

*Bhāg* is a system by which the revenue is taken in kind, or at the cash valuation on a fixed share of produce, after the crop is cut and brought to the threshing floor.

In the *Laranki* assessment the rate is settled between the State and the cultivator at a certain rate per plough for the *kharif* crops. The rate is based on one plough worked by two oxen and is proportionately increased if more than one pair is employed. There is no limit to the amount of land the plough may be passed over, nor is there any distinction made in the class of the soil. By this system, the rates for cultivators of the higher castes are usually lower than those for the lower castes, the reason being that in the higher classes the members of the family do not plough the land themselves but engage labourers to work for them who ordinarily do not take as much pains with the work. Under this assessment the cultivator is bound to pay the *Laranki* whether the land yields him anything or not.

*Thānca* is a system by which the revenue of the tract of land whether irrigated or non-irrigated is settled between the State and the cultivator by mutual agreement. In this system the cultivator binds himself to pay the State a fixed sum every year whether the land yields him anything or not.

*Darlandi* or *bighārat* is a system in which the revenue collections of a tract of land are made in cash at a fixed rate per *bighā* according to the class of soil.

Of these systems, those of *küt*, *bhāg* and *Laranki* are the commonest systems in the State except in the *Lauri pargana* and some portions of *Chhatarpur pargana*, where *darlandi* is commonest. In the *Deora pargana* *küt* and *laranka* are more often followed, while in *Rajnagar*, *darlandi* is never used.

In former days the revenue was collected by three equal instalments in the month of *Sawan* (August) called the *Sawanī*, in the month of *Agham* (November or December) and in the month of *Chait* (March or April). This practice was abolished by Munshi Chandi Prasad in 1882 and the demand for the *Sawanī* instalment was incorporated with the *Aghamī* demand. From the same year the system of taking land revenue in the British coin was introduced in the State.

The land revenue is now collected twice a year in instalments, two-thirds in the month of *Agham* (November-December) called the *Aghamī* and the remainder in the month of *Chait* (March-April) called *Chaitī*. These demands are realized through the *paticars*, *zaminūrs* and *shahnas* of the village. If

Collection.

a cultivator fails to pay his tax is warned by a *rukka* that he must bring the amount within 15 days. If he then fails, a process-server, at first without any charge on the cultivator and finally with fees chargeable to the cultivator, is deputed to realize the demand.

#### Incidence.

The incidence of the land revenue demand is per head of population about Re. 1/7; per acre of cultivated land Re. 1/11; and per acre on the total area six annas. The incidence is not considered high.

#### Suspensions and Remissions.

In times of scarcity and famine, the State grants suspensions and remissions of revenue. During the last famine of 1896-97 the State granted remissions of over Rs. 50,000. In cases of suspension, the arrears are realized by easy instalments when the condition of the people again becomes prosperous.

#### Soil rates.

It is not possible to assign rates for different classes of soil except under the *darbandi* or *bighārat* system, as in *küt*, *bhāg* and *haranka*, the quality of soil is not of any consequence. Where the *darbandi* system prevails, the average rates are as below :—

Class of Soil.	Minimum rate per Bigha.			Maximum rate per Bigha.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Mär	...	...	0 12 0	1	0	0
Kābar	...	...	0 8 0	0	12	0
Parua	...	...	0 8 0	0	12	0
Rānkar	...	...	0 6 0	0	10	0

#### Rates.

The special crops in the State are sugarcane and betel. The rates for sugarcane land varies from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2/8 per bigha and for betel from annas twelve to Rs. 2/8 per *pāri* (one *pāri* is nearly three *hāthas*).

Though the appraisement is made in kind, the revenue itself is seldom actually taken in kind, being realized at its cash valuation. The rule for realizing revenue according to the *küt* system is not the same throughout the State, as the share of each crop taken differs in different parts of the State. In the Rājnagar *pargana* one-fifth of the produce is taken in the case of *tillī*, one-fourth in the case of *kodon*, barley and *urad*; in the Deora *pargana* one-seventh to one-eighth of *tillī* is taken, one-fifth to one-sixth of *kodon* and one-fifth of *mad*.

## Section V.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

## (TABLE XXI.)

The chief sources of miscellaneous income are excise, customs and stamps.

The revenue department deals with excise and customs, no separate establishment being maintained.

Poppy is cultivated only in one village in the Deora *pargana*, about 3 acres being sown yearly, the value of the culture being about Rs. 30 a year. The produce is all made over to the Darbār. As the amount is not sufficient to supply the local demand, opium is imported from Seondha in Datia and from Gwalior State on a license granted by the Political Agent. The right to vend is sold annually to a contractor, the license including the right to sell *gānja* and *bhang*. The revenue derived from this source is about Rs. 3,000 a year. Opium is sold at Rs. 20 per seer. About 100 maunds of *gānja* and 50 of *bhang* are imported yearly for consumption in the State.

The liquor drunk is distilled from the flowers of the *māhū* (*Bassia latifolia*). The right to distil and vend is sold by auction yearly to a contractor, who pays a fixed amount to the Darbār. He is allowed to distil and sell within the limits of his contract area.

The number of shops in the State is 151 or one to  $7\frac{1}{2}$  square miles and 1,013 persons. The revenue from this source amounts to about Rs. 5,200 yearly. No foreign liquors are used.

The incidence of excise revenue is about seven pies per head of population.

There is only one kind of judicial stamp used in the State, the revenue from the sale of these stamps being about Rs. 2,100 a year.

## Section VI.—Public Works.

The head of the public works department is a sub-overseer. The total monthly cost of the departmental establishment is about Rs. 150.

The average yearly expenditure is about Rs. 23,000 on original works. The most important roads and buildings constructed and repaired in the last ten years are Mahārājā Jagat Rāj's *chhatris* at Chhatarpur, the boarding house attached to the school, a wing to the palace at Chhatarpur, the Malabra-Mahārājpur road, the road from Lauri to the Urmal and the Rāmlāgh road.

Opium.

Liquor.

Stamp.

## Section VII.—Army.

The regular forces of the State consist of 145 officers and men, of whom 97 are foot soldiers, 22 horsemen and 26 artillery with 27 guns. The irregular force consists of about 440 men besides 8 men forming the personal bodyguard of Chief called the *khās-bardārs*, two lancers or *ballam-bardārs*, two mace bearers or *sontā-bardārs*, 8 heralds or *nikils* and 4 messengers or *harkāras*.

Men both for regular and irregular forces are usually drawn from the Brāhman and Thākur classes of Hindus and from Muhammadans.

The pay of men in the regular force varies from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6, and in the irregular from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per mensem. After 20 years service, they become entitled to one-third of their pay as pension and after 30 years service to half.

The expenditure on the army is about Rs. 22,000 a year, of which Rs. 7,000 is the cost of the regulars.

## Section VIII.—Police and Jails.

In former days there were no regular police. But for the protection of the town of Chhatarpur, men of the Khangār tribe who were known by the name of *kutwārs*, were employed. They made rounds of the town during the night and reported all crimes and cases to the revenue officer who used to decide them verbally according to the custom of those days.

In 1863 Colonel Thompson when Superintendent of the State first started a regular police force and appointed a *kotwāl* for the town of Chhatarpur. The *kotwāl* was also a magistrate. But proceedings were still carried on verbally. In 1886 the State was divided into six circles each with a *thānā*. The circles were those of Chhatarpur, Rājnagar, Lauri, Kishangarh, Man and Malahra.

The regular police force now consists of 100 men of all grades under an inspector, while the village *chaukidārs* number 285, or 385 in all, giving one man to every 3 miles and 406 persons.

**Chaukidārs.** The village *chaukidārs* are under the police to whom they report all crimes. They also assist the police in detecting crime.

**Finger Impression.** A policeman has been instructed in the registration and classification of finger prints which has been regularly introduced.

**Arming.** The policemen are armed with a musket and a sword.

A colony by the name of Kanjarpura has recently been founded near Pipri village at Nowgong for the settlement of members of the Kanjar criminal tribe. Land has been given them for cultivation.

Settlement  
of criminal  
tribes.

A jail has been established at Chhatarpur town. During 1891, the mortality was 34 per mille and during 1901, 16 per mille. Industries are carried on in the jail, carpets, *duris*, baskets and blankets being made.

Jails.

### Section IX.—Education.

#### (TABLE XXIII.)

The first school to be opened in the State was the Urdu Madarsa started at the capital in 1865 by Colonel Thompson. Later on, English and Hindustani departments were added to it, and ultimately in 1884, it was raised to the status of a high school. In this school, instruction is given in English up to the standard of the Entrance examination of the University of Allahabad, and boys are prepared in Sanskrit for the *Pratham* and *Madhyam Parikshas* of the San-krit College at Benares. The annual expenditure on this institution is about Rs. 6,000, the average number of boys on the rolls being about 200, and the average number attending 130. Two girls' schools have been opened in the town of Chhatarpur, one for Hindu girls, and the other for Muhammadan girls; and more than 20 schools in important villages, where instruction was given to boys in Hindi and Urdu. An Educational Department was ultimately created and placed under the direct control of the Head Master of the High School. There are now 31 schools, one High School, two girls' schools, three branch schools and 25 village schools.

As regards primary education, taking the school-going age for males from 5 to 20 and for females from 5 to 15 years, one boy out of every 53 males of these ages, and one girl out of every 194 females, or in other words about 1·9 per cent. boys and about 0·51 per cent. of the females of school-going age, are being educated.

The pay of teachers in primary schools ranges from Rs. 4/- to Rs. 7/8/- per month.

The annual expenditure on education is about Rs. 6,000. The whole of this sum is met from State revenues, a school cess at the rate of two pies per rupee being realized on the land revenue.

There are two girls' schools in the State, both at the capital, one for Hindu girls and the other for Muhammadan girls. In each of them education is given up to the primary stage, in

Female Edu-  
cation.

the one in Hindi and the other in Urdu. They were both opened in 1885. The number of pupils is about 40 with an average attendance of 30. The subjects taught in the two schools are reading, writing and arithmetic. Needle work was also introduced but it could not be continued for want of teachers. In the Muhammadan girls' school, the Kurān is also taught.

The first and foremost difficulty in female education is the disinclination on the part of the people to send their girls to school. Secondly, if a girl is allowed to attend the school, she is removed on reaching the marriageable age, which is between 10 or 12, and consequently, large numbers of girls never go beyond the lowest classes. Another difficulty is the want of teachers. No female teachers of satisfactory morality and sufficient education are obtainable, and therefore tuition is given usually by old men.

#### Higher Education.

Only four Muhammadan students have ever prosecuted their studies up to the standard of the University Entrance examination and passed it : one in 1885 who is now in the employ of the State; one in 1887 who after graduating at the Muir Central College at Allahābād is now employed in the Educational Department in the Berārs; one in 1899; and one in 1901 who is now a student at the Muir Central College, Allahābād.

#### Muhammadan Education.

Muhammadans of this State, taken as a whole, belong mostly to an illiterate and poor class of people; and their poverty is the main cause affecting the education of their sons.

#### Section X.—Medical.

##### (TABLE XXVII.)

The only hospital in the State is that at the capital. It was founded during the time of Colonel Thompson when the State was under supervision. At first, it was merely a dispensary located in a small room and was in charge of a native doctor. No regular records of any sort were kept and medicines were distributed to out-door patients only. During the time of Munshi Chandi Prasād, a special building was constructed, and in 1885 an Assistant Surgeon was given charge of the institution. It now contains beds for 12 in-door patients and a separate ward for sick prisoners who require to be kept under (the constant supervision of) the Assistant Surgeon and cannot be treated in the jail. In-door patients average about 200 a year and out-door 1,600. About 700 major and 3,000 minor operations are performed yearly.

The cost of the medical establishment is about Rs. 7,000 yearly.

Cost.

Six vaccinators are employed, of whom two are Muhammadans and four Khyasthas. There is also one assistant superintendent of vaccination who is a barber by caste; the vaccination is not compulsory in any part of the State. The percentage of the population vaccinated is 3. Vaccination is yearly making progress and large numbers of the population now willingly get their children vaccinated.

Vaccination.

#### Section XI.—Surveys.

A survey for revenue purposes was carried on in the State in 1882-83. At that time the land of three *parganas*—Chhatarpur, Rājnagar and Lauri—was surveyed. The *pargana* of Deora is still unsurveyed. *Patwaris* in the State are required to maintain surveys and records of rights up-to-date, but very few of them are acquainted with survey work.

Survey.

## CHAPTER IV. ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS AND GAZETTEER.

**Chhatarpur Pargana:**—This *pargana* is situated between  $24^{\circ} 51'$  and  $25^{\circ} 9'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 25'$  and  $79^{\circ} 50'$  E., having an area of 229 square miles, with headquarters at Chhatarpur.

It is bounded on the north by Mahoba and Kulpahār *tahsils* of the Hamirpur District, on the west by Lugāt, Bijāwar and Charkhāri, on the south by Bijāwar and on the east by the Rājnagar *pargana*.

The *pargana* consists mainly of a level plain. The chief streams in it are the Urmal, Bharār, Kutne and Singhāri. The *pargana* abounds in tanks which yield much *singhāra* (water nut), *porain* (*Nymphaea lotus*) and *kamal* (*Nymphaea coerulea*). The climate is temperate and the average rainfall 48 inches.

In 1783 at Gatheora (Gathauri), about 4 miles from the capital, a fight took place between Bent Hazūri, *dīcān* of Pannā, and Rao Nauno Arjun Singh of Sungra near Kulpahār which resulted in Arjun Singh's success and the death of Bent Hazūri. During the Mutiny of 1857 and subsequent years the whole *pargana* was ravaged by the notorious insurgent Dīwān Deshpāt who was eventually killed at Doni. At Man stand the old palaces of Chhatarsāl.

Population was in 1901, 53,187 persons; males 26,480, females 26,707; Hindus numbering 50,331 or 94 per cent., Jaïns 187, Musalmāns 2,666, Animists 3. Occupied houses 11,218. Density 232 persons per square mile. One town Chhatarpur and 93 villages are situated in this *pargana*.

A Government post and telegraph office is located at Chhatarpur.

The Nowgong-Satna road passes through the *pargana* with inspection bungalows at Chhatarpur, Malahira and Doni.

An extensive trade is carried on in betel leaves produced in Mahārājpur, Malahira and Kusma.

The *pargana* is in charge of a *tahsildār* who is invested with the usual powers. The *tahsīl* offices, several schools and a hospital in the chief town, three police stations (*thānās*) at

Chhatarpur, Malahra and Mau, seven village schools and five *sarais* are located in this *pargana*.

Of the total area of 146,600 acres, 57,100 are cultivated, 14,700 being irrigated ; forest occupies 5,900 acres. The chief crops are *kodon* 17,000 acres and barley 13,500.

The land revenue amounts to Rs. 96,000, the total revenue to 1·87 lakh.

The alienated holdings in this *pargana* number 29, the largest being Kurraha with an income of Rs. 3,000, Dauria of Rs. 2,000, Kalanī of Rs. 1,800 and Kanti-Gopālpura and Gatheroa of Rs. 1,500.

**Deora Pargana:**—This *pargana* lies between 24° 20' and 24° 41' N., and 79° 42' and 80° 0' E., having an area of 279 square miles with headquarters at Deora.

It is bounded on the north by Bijāwar and the Rājna-gar *pargana*, on the west by Bijāwar, on the south by the Damoh District of the Central Provinces, and on the east by Pannā and the river Ken.

The whole *pargana* lies within the Vindhyan range, the country being very hilly and the soil of little value agriculturally.

The chief rivers and *nālas* in the *pargana* are the Ken, Semri, Barano, Bainskar and Burena. Of these the Semri and the Burena join the Ken and the Barano and Bainskar the Semri.

The climate is malarious and unhealthy. The average rainfall is 42 inches.

Population was in 1901, 9,658 persons; males 5,081, females 4,577; comprising 8,195 or 85 per cent., Hindus, 37 Jains, 89 Musalmāns and 1,337 Animists. Occupied houses 2,066.

There are 65 villages in the *pargana*. The soil chiefly consists of *rānkar* with some *parua*.

Of the total area of 178,900 acres, about 9,400 acres are cultivated, 900 being irrigated ; 57,100 acres are under forest and 55,000 unculturable waste. The prevailing crop is *kodon* which occupies about 4,000 acres. About 3 acres of poppy are also cultivated.

Excellent iron ore is found near the Deora, Barāgaon and Motīgarh villages and at one time the industry was in a very flourishing condition, but owing to competition with the imported iron the industry has decayed. A few mines are still worked according to the native system.

The *Kachcha Kira* (an allotropic modification of the diamond) is found in this *pargana* near the village of Pararia, but no regular workings have ever been started. Chalk and limestone are quarried near the village of Banki Girrauli.

There being no roads, all the traffic of the *pargana* is carried by pack bullocks to Katni-Murwāra station on the East Indian Railway.

The principal articles of export are *ghī*, timber, honey, lac, bees-wax, *chironji*, *mahuā* and gum.

The *tahsildār* in charge of the *pargana* is invested with the usual civil and criminal powers.

There are village schools at Kishangarh, Jaitpur and Khariani villages.

The *tahsildār's* court is at Deora and a police station (*thāna*) at Kishangarh.

The land revenue is about Rs. 20,000 per annum, the total revenue from all sources being about Rs. 30,200.

Fifteen *jagirs* are situated in the *pargana*, the largest being that of Bhaira with a revenue of Rs. 81,500 a year.

**Laurī or Londī Pargana:**—This *pargana*, the smallest in the State, lies between 25° 3' and 25° 5' N., and 79° 55' and 80° 15' E., having an area of 157, square miles, with headquarters at Laurī.

It is bounded on the north by the Mahoba *tahsil* in the Hamirpur District of the United Provinces and Charkhāri State, on the west and south by the Rūjnagar *pargana* and on the east by Charkhāri and Ajaigarh States.

The surface of the country is level and fertile. The only streams of importance are the Urmal and Kel, and a *nāla* named Būsha. The average rainfall is 45 inches. Population was, in 1901, 21,970 persons; males 12,762, females 12,208. Of these, Hindus numbered 21,296 or 97 per cent., Jains 29 and Musalmāns 645. Occupied houses 4,498. There are 71 villages in this *pargana*. Density 159 persons per square mile.

The soil consists mainly of *mār* and it is from this cause the most fertile district in the State. Of the total area of 100,300 acres, about 25,700 are cultivated, of which 5,300 are irrigated; forest or jungle covers 5,800 acres. The prevailing crops are *kodon* 3,400 acres and *tili* 3,800, *jowār* 5,600, cotton 3,200, barley 2,600 and wheat 2,100.

To the west of the *pargana* is a road from Mahoba to the *thāna* of Rūjnagar. All the traffic of the *pargana* is borne

by this road which is a feeder to the Jhānsi-Mānikpur section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

The *tahsildār* in charge of the *pargana* is invested with the usual civil and criminal powers. There are seven primary village schools in the *pargana*—at Laurī, Munreri, Gurha, Parsania, Gudaura, Pura and Balkaura. A civil and criminal court and a police station *thāna*) are located at headquarters.

The land revenue amounts to Rs. 73,000, the total revenue from all sources being about Rs. 92,200.

Seventeen *jāgirs* are situated in the *pargana*, the largest being that of Bhandar with a revenue of Rs. 600 per annum.

**Rājnagar Pargana:**—The largest and most important *pargana* in the State. It lies between  $24^{\circ} 38'$  and  $25^{\circ} 3'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 50'$  and  $80^{\circ} 9'$  E., having an area of 453 square miles, with headquarters at Rājnagar.

It is bounded on the north by the Laurī *pargana*, on the west by Chhattarpur *pargana*, on the south by the Pannā and Bijāwar States and the Deora *pargana*, and on the east by the river Ken and part of the Pannā and Ajaigarh States.

The country in the *pargana* is undulating with some hills on the south and south-east. The only river of any importance is the Ken, with its tributaries the Urmal, Khorār and Kutna. Like the Chhattarpur *pargana* it abounds in tanks. There are 21 of importance, the largest being those at Rājnagar known as Tāl Jalsen and Tāl Thouera.

The climate is healthy and the average rainfall 45 inches.

There are several places of interest in this *pargana*. The temple of the time of Chandel Rājās at Khajrāho, three miles distant from Rājnagar, the palace on the top of a hill at Rājgarh, the idol of Swargeshiwar-Mahādeo on the top of Manyāgarh hill, the Jain temple at Jatkāri and the Raneh waterfall on the Ken near Nārāyanpura are the most important.

A big religious and commercial fair is held at Khajrāho on the *Shira-rātri*, attended by about 5,000 persons. Various commodities are brought there for sale.

Population was (1901) 68,324 persons; males 36,347, females 31,977. Hindus numbered 65,921 or 95 per cent., Jains 513, Musalmāns 1,939 and Animists 311. Occupied houses 12,748. There are 192 villages in the *pargana*. Density is 151 persons per square mile.

The soil is fertile. Of the total area of 289,700 acres, about 58,500 are cultivated, 20,500 being irrigated; forest covers about

17,800 acres. The prevailing crops are *kodon* 17,900 acres, *tilli* 10,800, barley 13,200, and *tāmān* and *basara* 13,800.

The metalled road from Nowgong to Satna passes through this *pargana* with a branch to Rājnagar and Khajrāho. The other roads are all unmetalled.

The *pargana* is in charge of a *tahildar* who is the revenue officer and is also invested with civil and criminal powers. There are 8 village schools, at Rājnagar, Khajrāho, Khujuh, Pira, Nadaura, Pur, Bara and Beniganj. Besides the *pargana* offices a branch Imperial post office and a police station are situated at Rājnagar.

Rājnagar itself is about 25 miles distant from Chhatarpur, the capital of the State.

The land revenue is about one lakh and the total revenue 1.66 lakh.

Forty-two alienated holdings lie in this *pargana*, the largest being those of Basāri with a revenue of Rs. 4,800, Mankari and Palra with a revenue of Rs. 1,800. Tikarri with a revenue of Rs. 1,600, Tattam with a revenue of Rs. 1,500, Bikrampur with a revenue of Rs. 1,200 and Lālpur with a revenue of Rs. 1,073.

#### GAZETTEER.

**Bāgman, *pargana* Lauri.**—A large village lying in 25° 6' N., and 79° 59' E., 3 miles south of Lauri. Population was (1901) 1,191 persons : 614 males and 577 females, of whom 1,160 Hindus and 31 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 198.

**Barāgaon, *pargana* Deora.**—A decayed village lying in 24° 32' N., and 79° 38' E., 12 miles south-west of Deora. At a short distance from the village stands a temple of Jatā-Shankar-Mahādeo where an annual fair is held in the month of January at the *Makar Sankrānt* which is attended by about 500 people. It lasts only for one day. Population was (1901) 580 persons; 309 males and 271 females, of whom 565 Hindus, 6 Jains, 1 Musalmān and 8 Animists. Occupied houses 140.

**Basāri, *pargana* Rājnagar.**—A village situated in 24° 49' N., and 79° 44' E., 10 miles south-east of Chhatarpur and 13 miles south-west of Rājnagar, on the high road to Satna. It is held in *jāgū* by a Bundelā Thākur. It contains an old fort and an encamping ground. Population was (1901) 1,210 persons; 617 males and 593 females, of whom 1,146 Hindus and 64 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 228.

**Bhaira, *pargana* Lauri.**—A large village situated in 25° 2' N., and 80° 1' E., on the banks of the Urmal, about 9 miles south of Lauri. Population was (1901) 1,035 persons; 530 males and 505 females, of whom 1,021 Hindus, 3 Jains and 11 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 184.

**Bikrampur, pargana Rājnagar.**—A village situated in  $24^{\circ} 54' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 49' E.$ , 7 miles north-west of Rājnagar and about 14 miles east of Chhatarpur. It is held in *jāgīr* by a Thākur. Population was (1901) 1,050 persons; 507 males and 543 females, of whom 1,040 Hindus, 1 Jain and 9 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 184.

**Chhatarpur-Town, pargana Chhatarpur.**—The chief town is situated in  $24^{\circ} 55' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 36' E.$ , at the junction of the roads from Bānda to Saugor and Satna to Nowgong, being 64 miles from Bānda, 120 from Saugor, 15 from Nowgong and 85 from Satna. It is called after Mahārājā Chhatarsāl by whom it was founded in 1707. The town covers an area of about 360 acres.

The general appearance of the town is pleasing, many fine trees and numerous tanks and small streams giving it a picturesque aspect. A small stream, the Singhāri, flows along its eastern border. In the centre of the town stands a large open market place where trade of all kinds is carried. It remains open from 8 in the morning to 9 at night.

The most important building in the town is the Chief's palace. Adjoining the palace are the public offices, the law courts, the treasury and the high school. On the Nowgong road just outside stands the Guest house on a small eminence, which commands a fine view of the whole town, while opposite to it on the top of another hill stands a temple to Mahābīr approached by a long flight of stone steps. The town was at first in the possession of Pannā chiefs, but in the latter part of the 18th century A. D. fell to Kunwar Sone Shāh. It was formerly one of the largest commercial centres in Bundelkhand, being a noted mart for salt, sugar, *tāt-pattis*, country paper and soap. It also had a considerable reputation for the manufacture of brass and iron vessels and coarse cutlery. Its trade has, however, decayed since the opening of railways and new roads diverted the traffic elsewhere.

Tieffenthaler who visited the place about 1765, says it was a commercial town of importance, he mentions *sanyāsīs* and *bairājīs* who acted as merchants and bankers.<sup>1</sup>

The town is divided into 18 wards or *muhallas*, of which the most important are *Benīganj*, *Barigail* or *Mahal-darwāza* *Porwāri-pura* and *Kunjrahī*. *Benīganj* lies on the south side of the town and takes its name from its founder Benī Hazūrī of Pannā. It was formerly the centre of the local paper-making trade but is now inhabited by Deccani Brāhmans in State employ. The hospital,

1. Tieffenthaler, I, 215.

the post and telegraph office, the dīwān's house, the high school and the *tahsil* offices are in this *muhalla*.

The *Barigail muhalla* adjoins *Beniganj*. No special community lives here but the houses are well built and the inhabitants are mostly State servants. The Chief's palace originally built by Mahārāja Hindūpat of Pannā, but greatly improved and added to by the present Chief, stands in this ward, which also contains the law courts and *kotwāli* or headquarters police station.

Outside the palace grounds lie the offices of the dīwān, the nāzim, the accounts, revenue and public works, constructed according to the design of Mr. Dallas in 1887-88. At the northern extremity of this quarter, at a little distance from the *kotwāli*, stands the temple of Chitragnuptaji. It was built in 1888 by the local Kāyasthas. The *Porwāripura muhalla* is connected with the last lying to its west. It obtains its name from being mainly inhabited by the Porwārs or Jains who are merchants and cloth dealers and men of capital. As compared with early days, however, it is now in a ruinous condition, many of the Porwārs having left owing to the decline of trade.

The *Kunjrahti muhalla* lies in the centre of the town. Many rich people live here. In comparison with former days, however, though the population is much the same in number, the wealth of its inhabitants has greatly decreased.

Population was in 1881, 13,474; 1891, 12,957; 1901, 10,029 persons; males 4,634, females 5,395. Thus the population fell in the last decade by 2,928 or 23 per cent. Classified by religions there were 8,376 or 83 per cent. Hindus, 113 Jains and 1,540 or 15 per cent. Musalmāns. The literate population numbered 519 or 11 per cent. males, and 32 or 0·6 per cent. females. Occupied houses numbered 2,551.

The chief industries still carried on in the town are the manufacture of country paper, soap, carpets, *daris*, blankets and *tāl-pattis*; the weaving of coarse cotton *gazi* cloth, printing on various fabrics, the making of brass, iron and pewter vessels, gold and silver ornaments, carving in wood, lacquer work and coarse cutlery. The paper and soap industries are of long standing, but have decayed of late years, and of the many firms which formerly made these articles only two now remain. The soap is made by means of *guli* (fruit of *mahuā*) or sweet oil and alkali, no animal fats being used. It is employed only for washing clothes. The carpets, *daris*, *newār*, blankets, etc., are made in the State jail.

The town contains many religious edifices. The most important are mentioned below :—

The temple of Sankatmochan-Mahādeo was erected in 1736 A. D. on the banks of Rao Sāgar tank by Rao Himmat Rai Kāyastha. At the *Basant Panchami*, *Sankrānt* and *Shīva-rātrī* large numbers resort to it. The temple of Dhanush-dhārī which stands close to it was built by Mahant Adhar Dās in 1763 A. D. The temple of Jan-raiṣī which stands on a hill to the north of the town, is said to have been constructed by one Siddha Parmāṇandjī in A. D. 1603, before the town itself was founded. The temple of Mahābir on a hill to the west of the town said to have been built by a Brāhmaṇ, that of Narbadeshwār or Pratāpīshwar-Mahādeo was built by Rājā Pratāp Singh on the banks of Pratāp Sāgar tank, in 1846 A. D., and the temple of Ganeshankar-Mahādeo close to the palace constructed by Būnda Hazūran about 40 years ago may also be mentioned. All these temples are maintained by the State.

Other edifices are the Chitrāguptajī temple already mentioned and the Jain temples of Budhe Dalāl and Amar Singh Chaudhri. Nineteen mosques, of which only four are used, also stand in the town.

The cenotaphs of Mahārājā Jagat Rāj and Diwān Kamodli Singh, nearly 100 *samādhīs* of Gusains, about 60 other Hindu temples and 5 *sati-marhias* also stand in and around the town. A hospital, a high school, one other school for boys and two for girls, an industrial school for the encouragement of local industries, two *sarais* for native travellers, an Imperial inspection bungalow and the State Guest house complete the tale of important edifices.

Watch and ward is kept by a body of 46 regular police under an inspector assisted by 9 *chaukidārs*.

Sanitation, lighting, etc., are controlled by a small local committee appointed by the Darbār.

**Deora, pargana Deora.**—The headquarters of the *pargana* lying in 24° 34' N., and 79° 42' E., about 30 miles south of Chhatarpur. Originally the village stood in the summit of the Garhi-pahūr at the foot of which it now lies. It contains the *tahsīl* court. Population was (1901) 448 persons; 229 males and 219 females, of whom 417 were Hindus, 11 Jains and 20 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 110. A small fort, the *tahsīl* offices and a police *thāna* stand in the village. It is connected with Chhatarpur by an unmetalled road.

**Donī, pargana Chhatarpur.**—An old village lying in  $25^{\circ} 7'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 42' E.$ , about 15 miles north of Chhatarpur and 10 miles north-east of Nowgong, a little to the south of the Nowgong-Bānda road. It contains a big tank named the Drona Sāgar, which is said to have been constructed by the Chandel Rājās. It also contains three temples said to be of the same period. At this place Diwān Dehpāt, the notorious rebel leader in the Mutiny and post-mutiny period, was killed by Mihi Lāl and Bansidhar Purohits of this village. These two men afterwards received the village of Mahtol, not very far from Donī, in jāgīr, as a reward for their services. An Imperial inspection bungalow, a State school, a camping ground and a *sarai* are located here. Population was (1901) 1,237 persons; 633 males and 604 females, of whom 1,210 Hindus, 4 Jains and 23 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 256.

**Gatheora, pargana Chhatarpur.**—A village lying in  $24^{\circ} 52'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 40' E.$ , about 4 miles south-east of Chhatarpur and about a mile from the Chhatarpur-Pannā metalled road. In 1783 A. D. a battle was fought here between Benī Hazūrī, *dīwān* of Pannā, and Rao Arjun Singh, Ponwār Thākur of Sungra, who was then *kāmdār* of the Bānda state. The immediate cause of the battle according to tradition was as follows:—At one time Benī Hazūrī came to Chhatarpur, which was then in Pannā territory, and was checking the accounts of one Bhagwant Chaudhri, the *amīl* (revenue collector) of Chhatarpur *chabūtra* (revenue office). Finding some misappropriation of money had taken place or some serious irregularity in the accounts, the Hazūrī demanded an explanation from the Chaudhri, at the same time making use of harsh language and striking him with one of his sandals. Thereupon the Chaudhri at once left the place. In the meantime the Hazūrī received information that Khemrāj Chaube, *kilādār* of Kālinjar (formerly one of his colleagues), had revolted and was asserting his independence, so he at once started for Kālinjar to punish him but was defeated.

While the Hazūrī was thus engaged at Kālinjar, Bhagwant Chaudhri heard that Rao Naune Arjun Singh had come to Kalāni (a village not very far from Chhatarpur). He went to him and induced him to come to Chhatarpur and take possession of it. Benī Hazūrī hearing the news of Arjun Singh's seizure of Chhatarpur proceeded at once to eject him. The two armies came face to face at Gatheora and Benī Hazūrī was killed. Population was (1901) 1,305 persons; 637 males and 668 females, of whom 1,202 Hindus, 12 Muhammadans and 1 Animist. Occupied houses 216. This village is also called Gathauri.

**Gurha, pargana Laurī.**—A village situated in  $25^{\circ} 9' N.$ , and  $80^{\circ} 3' E.$ , 3 miles north-east of Laurī. A Hindi primary school is

located here. Population was (1901) 1,159 persons; 591 males and 568 females, of whom 1,119 Hindus and 40 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 224.

**Haman**, *pargana* Chhatarpur.—A small village lying in  $24^{\circ} 57' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 39' E.$ , about 3 miles north of Chhatarpur on the bank of the Singhāri. The village seems to be an old one. At a distance of about a mile south-west of the village stands the temple of Jhanjhan Devī which is much resorted to by the residents of this and neighbouring villages, as well as by those of the town of Chhatarpur. A religious fair is held at this temple every Monday and Friday in the month of *Asārh* (June and July). It lasts only for a few hours in the afternoon. Population was (1901) 408 persons; 205 males and 203 females, of whom 401 Hindus and 7 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 103.

**Jhumār**, *pargana* Laurī.—A village situated in  $25^{\circ} 8' N.$ , and  $80^{\circ} 2' E.$ , about 2 miles north-east of Laurī. A battle was fought here between Kunwar Sone Shāh and the Rājā of Pannā. On one side of the village there is an old tank built by the Chandellas. Population was (1901) 576 persons; 300 males and 276 females, of whom 550 Hindus and 26 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 121.

**Khajrāho**, *pargana* Rājnagar.—A small village noted for its magnificent collection of mediæval temples, situated in  $24^{\circ} 50' N.$ , and  $80^{\circ} 0' E.$ , 25 miles distant from the town of Chhatarpur. Population (1901) 1,242 persons; males 629, females 613; occupied houses 218.

The old name as given in inscriptions was *Khajjūravarāhaka*. By the bard Chand in his *Prithrūñāj Raisa* it is called *Khajurapura* or *Khajjin-pura*. Tradition ascribes the origin of the name to two golden *khajūr* trees (date-palms) with which the city gates were ornamented, but it was more probably due to the prevalence of this tree in the neighbourhood. It was in early days a place of importance being the capital of the kingdom of Jijhotia, which practically corresponded with modern Bundelkhand.

The earliest supposed reference to Khajrāho is in the travels of the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsiang, who in A. D. 641 visited the country of *Chi-ki-to*, which has been identified as Jijhotia. The account, however, is very brief and somewhat confused which makes the identification by no means certain. Hiuen Tsang does not mention any chief town but notes that there were in the country several tens of Sanghārāmas (monasteries) with but few priests, and also about ten temples, adding that the king was of Brāhmaṇ caste, but believed firmly in "the three precious ones" (*i. e.*, was a Buddhist). The common

people, however, he states, believed in heretical doctrine & or were Hindus.

There are no Buddhist remains on the spot except a colossal Buddha inscribed with the usual creed in characters of the 7th or 8th century. Abu Rihān<sup>1</sup>, who accompanied Mahmūd of Ghaznī in his campaign against Kālinjar in 1021, states that Kājurāha is the capital of Jajahoti. It was probably at this time the chief town of the Chandella dominions. Ibn Batuta, who visited the place in about 1335, calls it Kājura and describes a lake about a mile in length round which there were idol temples frequented by a tribe of *jogis* with long and clotted hair, to whom many Muhammadans even resorted in order to learn magic. The place must, therefore, at this time have still been in possession of the Hindus and important as a religious centre, though no longer a capital town. It seems probable that the partial demolition of its temples and consequent loss of importance, dates from 1494-95 when Sikandar Lodi<sup>2</sup> after his expedition into Baghelkhand retreated through this region and sacked the country as far as Bānda.

The fact that it was no longer a capital town, and that it was probably more or less deserted in the 15th and 16th centuries, would account for its not being mentioned in the *Ain-i-Akbari*. Tieffenthaler only names it, and does not appear to have known anything about it.

Its present importance lies solely in its magnificent series of temples which rank second only to the famous group at Bhuvaneshwar. With two exceptions these temples were all built between A. D. 950 and 1050.

The temples fall into three main groups: the Western, Northern and South-eastern, each group containing a principal shrine or cathedral and several smaller temples. The Western group consists entirely of Brāhmaṇical temples, both Shaivite and Vaishnavite. The Northern group contains one large and some small temples all Vaishnav, and several heaps of ruins. The South-eastern group consists entirely of Jain temples. They are all with the exception of the "Chaunsat Jogi" and "Ghantār"

1. Beal's *Buddhist Records of the Western World*, II, 271.

2. E. M. H., I, 57.

3. E. M. H., V, 91. Brigg'a Ferishta, I, 570.

*General References:*—Sir A. Cunningham's *Archaeological Survey Report*, vol. II, 412; VII, 62; X, 16; XX, 155. *Epigraphica India*, I, 121. Beal's *Life of Hiuen Tsang*. Sir A. Cunningham's *Ancient Geography. Archaeological Survey Reports of Western India*. *Progress Report to June 1904*.

constructed of the same material, sandstone, and in the same style. Even the Jain temples in the South-eastern group show none of the peculiarities common to the temples of this religion. The spire is here of more importance than the porch, there are no courtyards with circumambient cells, no prominent domes ; externally they are similar in appearance to the Hindu-edifices.

The oldest temple in the Western group is that known as the "Chaunsat Jogini." All that now remains is a celled courtyard, the cells being of very simple design. Fergusson was of opinion that there had originally been a central shrine of wood which has disappeared. Unlike the other temples it is built entirely of gneiss. It is assigned to the end of 8th or early part of the 9th century.

Of the remaining temples the "Kandarya-Mahādeo" is much the finest. Its construction is curious as the sanctum does not occupy the full breadth of the building, a passage being left round the sanctum for the circumambulation (*parikrama*) of the image, the outer wall being pierced with three porticos to admit light to the passage. This gives the temple the unusual form of a double instead of a single cross. The carving is exceedingly rich and covers every available inch of space, but many of the figures are highly indecent; not an ordinary defect in Shaiva temples. The other large temple in this group is the "Rāmchandra" or "Lakshmanji," dedicated to Vishnu. It is in plan and decoration similar to the "Kandarya-Mahādeo." It contains an inscription of the Chandella dynasty of S. 1011 (954 A. D.).

The "Vishvanāth temple" also in this group contains Chandella inscriptions of S. 1056 and 1174 (999 and 1117 A. D.) and one of a feudatory, dated S. 1058 (1001 A. D.).

The Northern group contains one large temple dedicated to the Vāmana or dwarf incarnation of Vishnu. It is, however, very inferior in decoration to the best in the Western group. The remaining temples in this group are small.

The heaps of ruins or mounds in this group, which General Cunningham considered to be the remains of the Sanghārāmas, mentioned by Hiuen Tsiang, are situated near this temple.

The South-eastern group contains Jain remains only. The oldest temple in this group is the "Ghantū," now a mere skeleton consisting of a set of exquisitely delicate pillars still bearing the architraves. The pillars are of sandstone but the walls were of gneiss and quite plain. The remains of this temple are very similar to those at Gyāraspur. It is assigned to the 6th or 7th century.

The cathedral of this group is the temple to "Jinānāth." The design is unusual, consisting in a simple oblong with an open pillared hall vestibule and sanctum. The interior decoration is very fine. A Chandella inscription of S. 1011 (954 A. D.) exists in it.

On the Kuiār Nāla not far from the village of Khajrāhō stands the magnificent temple known as the "Kunwar Nāth," which, though inferior in size to some of those in the three groups, is quite equal to them in design and the profuseness of its decoration.

At Jatkāri village,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile away, there stands a temple which is traditionally said to have been built by Suja, sister of the famous Banāphar hero Allia, who figures so prominently in Chānd's "Prithvirāj Rāisa."

The epigraphical records in these temples are of great historical value.

**Khariānī, pargana Deora.**—A village situated in  $24^{\circ} 34'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 57'$  E., 18 miles east of Deora on river Ken. The story told to account for its name is as follows:—A battle was being fought by Rājā Sūrat Singh at Palkohān' village, 2 miles off, when an old Brāhmaṇ woman, flying from Palkohān, hid herself in a *kharīhān* or threshing yard on the site of the present village to save her life. Subsequently others followed her. These people later on founded the village and named it Khariānī. A Hindī primary school is located here. Population was (1901) 645 persons; 332 males and 313 females, all Hindus. Occupied houses 141.

**Khonp, pargana Chhatarpur.**—A village situated in  $24^{\circ} 58'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 40'$  E., 5 miles north-east of Chhatarpur, on Chhatarpur-Bānda metalled road. It is an old village situated at the foot of a hill on a big tank. A ruined fort stands here which tradition ascribes to a wife of Akbar. The fort contains an inscription which is not properly decipherable. Population was (1901) 643 persons; 321 males and 322 females, of whom 640 Hindus and 3 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 152.

**Kishangarh, pargana Deora.**—A village situated on the Burena in  $24^{\circ} 28'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 46'$  E., about 15 miles south-east of Deora. It was founded, it is said, by one Dīmān Deokaran, a Rāj-Gond, and was originally called Samarganj. A small fort here is said to have been built by some Bundelā Thākurs. Two tanks are situated here, one on the western side and the other on the northern. A weekly market is held here to which about 200 people come. All traffic is carried by pack animals to the Katni-Murwāra station on the East Indian Railway. A *thāna* and a Hindī primary school are located here.

Population was (1901) 435 persons; 216 males and 219 females, of whom 381 Hindus, 8 Jains, 38 Musalmāns and 5 Animists. Occupied houses 102.

*Kurraha, pargana Chhatarpur.*—A village lying in  $25^{\circ} 5'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 43'$  E., 13 miles north-east of Chhatarpur, on the Chhatarpur-Bānda metalled road. It is said to have been founded by some Tiwārī Brāhmans who came from Orchhā. It has long been held in *jāgīr* by Muhammadans, who were, it is said, originally Bais Thākurs of Donria Khera in the Unaо District. Accounts are so conflicting that it is not possible to say when they turned Muhammadans or how they got this village in *jāgīr*. They behave like Hindus and retain many Hindu customs even worshipping Hindu deities. Till very recently they never even kept a fast during *Ramzān*, nor offered their prayers to God in Muhammadan fashion. The village contains a Hindi primary school. Population was (1901) 1,337 persons; 629 males and 708 females, of whom 1,020 Hindus and 317 Muhammadans. Occupied houses 232.

*Kusma, pargana Chhatarpur.*—An old village situated in  $25^{\circ} 1'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 50'$  E.,  $13\frac{1}{2}$  miles north-east of Chhatarpur. Like Malahra and Mahārājpur this village is known for its production of betel leaves which are largely exported. A primary Hindi school has been opened in the village. Population was (1901) 1,769 persons; 877 males and 892 females, of whom 1,727 Hindus and 42 Musalmāns; occupied houses 316.

*Lauri, pargana Lauri.*—The headquarters of the *pargana* situated in  $25^{\circ} 8'$  N., and  $80^{\circ} 7'$  E., at 36 miles north-east of Chhatarpur. The village is an old one and is traditionally believed to have been founded by Rāmā's son, Lava, an origin suggested, of course, by the name, a corruption from Lavapuri to Lauri being self-evident. It lies at the foot of a hill, on the top of which there stands a small temple sacred to Banbur Bahui Devi. It stands on a rock which has a small tank or *kund* in the centre. The image of the goddess is lying prostrate in this *kund*. Tradition locates here the stable of the famous white horse with a black ear which was sacrificed by Yudhishthira. The temple is said to have been built during the time of Mahārājā Hindūpat of Pannā in Samvat 1818 (1751 A. D.), and the flight of steps, about 500 in number, by the eldest Rām of Rājā Pratāp Singh in 1831 A. D. Inside the village near the hill called Lauri-nār there is a small temple ascribed to the Chandels. Besides these shrines 15 other temples of different sizes and dedicated to various Hindu gods and four mosques stand in the village. This village is well-known for its betel leaf which is exported in some quantity. Traffic passes to

Mahoba station on the Jhansi-Münikpur line which is 14 miles distant by metalled road. A weekly market is held every Thursday, attended by about 300 people. The *tahsildār's* court and office, a *thāna* and a Hindi primary school are located here. Population was (1901) 3,210 souls; 1,606 males and 1,604 females, of whom 2,939 Hindus and 271 Jains. Occupied houses 563.

**Mahārājpur, pargana Chhatarpur.**—An important village lying in  $25^{\circ} 0'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 50'$  E., about 13 miles north-east of Chhatarpur. It is well-known for its betel leaves which are exported to Delhi, Umbala, Meerut, Aligarh, Muttra, Agra, Morādābād, Bareilly, Pilibhit, Cawnpore, Hāmpur, Sahāranpur, etc. A weekly market is held here every Sunday, at which about one thousand people assemble. The place contains the cenotaphs of Diwān Chāmūnd Rai and a ruined palace built by him. A yearly fair is held here in the month of Asārh at a temple of Hanumān about a mile from the village. The village is connected by an unmetalled road, 3 miles long, with Malabra and then by a metalled road (10 miles) with Chhatarpur. For export to distant places the produce of this and other villages in its vicinity is carried to Mahoba railway station which is about 25 miles distant. A Hindi primary school and a camping ground are situated here. A letter-box is kept by the Postal Department and is usually cleared every Monday by the postman of the Chhatarpur post office. Population was (1901) 4,055 persons; 2,031 males and 2,024 females, of whom 3,980 Hindus and 75 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 867.

**Malahrā, pargana Chhatarpur.**—An important village lying in  $25^{\circ} 2'$  N., and  $79^{\circ} 43'$  E., 10 miles north-east of Chhatarpur on the Bāndā-Chhatarpur road. It is well-known for its betel leaf which with that of Mahārājpur, about 3 miles distant, is largely exported. The village contains a temple to Bagrajan Devī built by Rājā Pratāp Singh and also the tomb of a Mubammadān saint named Khwāja Nizām-ud-dīn Kadiri. Attached to the court is a mosque called *takiya*. For the maintenance of this mosque the village of Gaurāri, yielding an annual income of about Rs. 1,000, has been granted by the State in *māṣī*. The present occupant of the shrine or *takiya* is one Wali-Allah Shāh of Jannpur District, known here by the title of Malahra Shāh. A weekly market, the biggest in the State, is held here every Monday, attended by about 1,500 people. Two large and several small tanks in which *singhāra* and *porain* are produced in great abundance, are located in the village. A Government inspection bungalow, a State *sarai*, a *thāna* (police station), a school and a camping ground are

situated here. A letter-box is kept here which is cleared once a week by the postman of the Chhatarpur office. Population (1901) was 2,659 persons; 1,352 males and 1,307 females, of whom Hindus 2,548 and Musalmāns 111. Occupied houses 499.

**Manyāgarh, pargana Rājnagar.**—A hill and a ruined fortress in the Vindhyan range near Rājgarh situated in  $24^{\circ} 43' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 58' E.$ , 10 miles south of Rājnagar. The hill rises to about 1,200 feet above sea-level. From the foot of the hill a broad flight of steps leads to the temple of Swargeshwar-Mahādeo which now contains nothing but a natural spring, of which the waters are caused to drip on to a number of *lingams* ultimately collecting in a small *kund*. A marble statue of a man, wearing a *dhotī*, stands near the *lingams*. It is said to be that of the Rājā who established the shrine. It is not old. Ascending beyond the temple one reaches the remains of the fort wall, massively built of squared stone in some parts, and rubble in others. The wall runs round the flat summit of the hill. The rock has been artificially scarped in places and altogether forms a stronghold, which must have been a formidable place to attack in its day. The place derives its name of Manyāgarh from Manya Devī who was, according to Chand, the tutelary deity of the Chandellas. A temple to this goddess, no doubt, once stood on the hill. A few fragments of what may have been her temple are still standing.<sup>1</sup>

**Mau, pargana Chhatarpur.**—An important village of considerable age situated in  $25^{\circ} 0' N.$ , and  $79^{\circ} 30' E.$ , 10 miles north-west of Chhatarpur and about four miles south-east of Nowgong on the metalled road.

It is certainly an old village though not as ancient as tradition would have us believe, which avers that it was founded by Rājā Dhruva, the famous son of Uttānpāda and grandson of Manu, whose merits raised him to heaven as the pole star. It contains no buildings of any real age, all those now standing dating only to the time of Chhatarsāl. It was, however, in the 6th century the chief seat of the Parikhārs who were ousted by the Chandellas. It again became of importance under Chhatarsāl in the 18th century. The chief buildings are the cenotaph of Mahārājā Chhatarsāl and his Rāni Kamalāpatti. Two old palaces, one built by Mahārājā Chhatarsāl and the other by Mahārājā Shankar Shāh, the *Kutta-ki-surai*, or tomb of a dog, on the top of Golābir's hill, and the Jagat Sāgar and Dhubela tanks, are also located here.

On July 10th, 1778, Colonel Goddard who was marching to Bombay with troops to assist Raghunāth Rao was opposed here by the Bundelā chiefs. A fight took place in which the Bundelās were defeated and suffered severely. The British losses were only four sepoys killed and 27 of all ranks wounded.<sup>1</sup>

Formerly Mau was the headquarters of a separate *pargana* but in 1889 it was amalgamated with that of Chhatarpur. A weekly market is held in this village every Thursday, usually attended by about 400 people. The northern side of the village is drained by the Sil and Bharār rivers and the land about the village is irrigated by two canals, one from Jagat Sāgar tank and the other from Dhubela.

In the month of January on the day of *Makar Sankrānt* a religious fair is held on the embankment of the Jagat Sāgar tank. At the distance of about a mile and a half from Mau is the village of Sahānia, held in *jāgīr* by a relation of the Mahārāja.

Population was (1901) 2,364 persons; 1,209 males and 1,155 females, of whom 2,181 Hindus, 33 Jains and 150 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 575.

A *thāna* (police station), a school teaching Hindi up to the primary stage and a *sarai* are situated here. A letter-box is maintained by the Postal Department, which is cleared daily at the Nowgong post office to which it is taken by the driver of the mail cart carrying mails from Chhatarpur to Nowgong.

*Mirka, pargana Lauri.*—A village situated in 25° 12' N., and 79° 57' E., about 6 miles north-west of Lauri, on the Kel river. It is especially known for its indigo cultivation. Population (1901) 796 persons; 399 males and 397 females, of whom 789 Hindus and 7 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 134.

*Munderī or Munrērī, pargana Lauri.*—A village lying in 25° 6' N., and 80° 10' E., 4 miles south-east of Lauri. In 1835 a fight took place here between Rājā Pratāp Singh and his nephews Kunwar Prān Singh and Kuawar Bhagwant Singh. On *Pūs Sudī* 15th and *Chait Sudī* 15th a religious fair, called *Siddhajī-ku-melu*, is held here. A weekly market also takes place and is attended by about 300 persons. The village is connected on the one side with Lauri and Mahoba and on the other with Chandla (in Charkhāri State) by a metalled road on which all traffic is borne to Mahoba railway station. A Hindi primary school has been opened here. Population was (1901) 1,914 persons; 973 males and 941

---

1. *Memoirs of the Life of Warren Hastings*—by G. R. Gleig, vol. II, p. 217.

females, of whom 1,888 Hindus and 26 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 326.

**Pāhari—Maimārū,** *pargana Rājnagar*.—A village situated in 25° 53' N., and 79° 48' E., 7 miles west of Rājnagar and about 15 miles east of Chhatarpur. It is held in *jāgīr* by a Thākur. Population was (1901) 1,241 persons; 640 males and 601 females, of whom 1,216 Hindus, 5 Jains and 20 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 209.

**Pur,** *pargana Rājnagar*.—A village situated in 24° 59' N., and 79° 46' E., 12 miles north-west of Rājnagar and about the same distance north-east of Chhatarpur. A Hindi primary school is located here. Population was (1901) 1,499 persons; 748 males and 751 females, of whom 1,486 Hindus and 13 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 283.

**Rājgarh,** *pargana Rājnagar*.—A village situated in 24° 42' N., and 80° 0' E., 10 miles south of Rājnagar and about 37 miles south-east of Chhatarpur on the north side of the Nowgong-Satna road. It is said to have been founded by Rājā Hirde Shāh of Pannā.

Tieffenthaler says (1765) it is "a town composed of huts (cabanes) made of interlaced bamboos." He notices the fort also.<sup>1</sup>

It was much improved by Mahārājā Hindūpat, but now it is in a decayed state. The palace erected by Mahārājā Hindūpat on the top of a hill to the south-west of the village still stands, and contains the grave of Colonel Leslie who died here in October 1778.<sup>2</sup>

The village is situated at the foot of Manyāgarh hill and is surrounded with jungle. Its population was in 1901, 1,014 persons, of whom 504 males and 510 females, comprising 950 Hindus, 11 Jains and 53 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 243.

**Rājnagar,** *pargana Rājnagar*.—The headquarters of the *pargana*, situated in 24° 53' N., and 79° 56' E., 25 miles east of Chhatarpur *via* Ganj and about 20 miles *via* Gangaich and Bikrampur. The village is said to be about 200 years old. Kunwar Sone Shāh originally made it his capital and named it Rājnagar. The earlier name of the village was Bamnīkhera, the old settlement being about half a mile from

1. *Tieff.* I, 245.

2. Colonel Leslie was in command of the force ordered to march from Bengal to assist the Peshwā Raghunāth Rao. Leslie instead of marching direct embroiled himself with the local chiefs and it had already been determined to deprive him of his command when he died (See *Memoirs of the Life of Warren Hastings*—by G. R. Gleig, vol. II, pp. 196, 217, 219).

the modern site. As the village is nearly in the centre of the State it remained the actual seat of the administration of Chhatarpur became the capital. The present Chief always resides here two or three months in the year. A strong fort stands in the village which is said to have been constructed by fourteen Rājput Thākurs who were expelled by Sone Shāh. This fort now serves as a residence for the Chief.

The village contains two or three fine gardens and several big temples. The principal gardens are the Rām-bāgh and Nazar-bāgh and the most important temples those of Rādhā-Mādhōji, Behāriji, Gauri-Shankar and Debiti. There are also several tanks, the largest called Jalsena lying in front of the fort.

Markets are held on Tuesday and Thursday attended by about 300 peoples. The population in 1901, was 4,058 persons : males 2,138 and females 1,920. The population comprised 3,342 Hindus, 76 Jains and 640 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 702.

A Government branch post office, the *taksil* offices, a police station, an encamping ground and a primary school to which an English class was added in September 1905, are located here. A dispensary has recently been established and is named the Daly Hospital in memory of the late General Sir Henry Daly, formerly Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.

**Talgaon, pargana Rājnagar.**—A village lying in 25° 0' N., and 80° 2' E., 7 miles north-east of Rājnagar. Population was (1901) 1,020 persons; 527 males and 493 females, of whom 1,014 Hindus and 6 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 185.

**Tattam, pargana Rājnagar.**—A village in 25° 2' N., and 79° 54' E., 12 miles north of Rājnagar and about 2 miles north-east of Chhatarpur. It is held in *jāgir* by a Thākur who is a relative of the Chief. Population was (1901) 2,019 persons ; 1,007 males, 1,012 females, of whom 1,977 Hindus and 42 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 365.

**Urdmau, pargana Chhatarpur.**—A village lying in 25° 5' N., and 79° 46' E., 16 miles north-east of Chhatarpur. Population was (1901) 1,213 persons; 591 males and 622 females, of whom 1,206 Hindus and 7 Musalmāns. Occupied houses 201.

**TRANSLATION of the SUNNUD granted to KOOUR  
SONEE SAH under the Seal and Signature of the  
Honorable the Governor-General in Council.**

*19th March 1806.*

Whereas the province of Bundelcund has been lately annexed to the possessions of the Honorable Company; and whereas Koour Sonee Sah, on hearing of the benevolent principles of the British Government towards their subjects and their protection of their dependants having sincerely professed his submission and obedience, has freely and voluntarily ceded to the officers of the British Government the town of Chutterpore and four chookees which were in his possession during the lifetime of the late Nawab Ali Bahadur, together with the towns of Mow and of Salut and the villages dependent on them; which he obtained possession of since the demise of the late Nawab Ali Bahadur; and whereas the said Koour Sonee Sah has deputed his eldest son, Koour Partab Sing, to attend upon Captain Baillie, the Governor-General's Agent, for the purpose of soliciting forgiveness of his offence in not having formerly attended Captain Baillie in person, and has entered into and transmitted to that officer under his signature a written obligation of allegiance and fidelity to the British Government, containing five distinct Articles: therefore, and with a view to the protection of the rights of those who profess obedience to the British Government, which it is the just and benevolent principle of the British Government in India uniformly to support and protect, the undermentioned villages and forts, which were in the possession of Koour Sonee Sah from ancient times until the present year 1213 Fuslee, are hereby continued and secured in his possession, to be held by him under the authority of the British Government. And so long as Koour Sonee Sah shall practise obedience and submission to the British Government and shall strictly adhere to the terms of his obligation and to the Articles contained in the Paper of Requests presented by him, he shall not in any manner whatever be molested in the permanent possession of the undermentioned villages and forts.

*Statement of the Villages and Forts.*

Khulusa villages	...	...	...	151
Nankar	...	...	...	92
Padaruk	...	...	...	30
Muddude Maash	...	...	...	21
<hr/>				<hr/>
Nankar, &c., villages	...	...	...	143
<hr/>				<hr/>
Total villages	...	...	...	294

FORM of a SUNNUD granted to KOOUR PERTAP  
SING under the Seal and Signature of the  
GOVERNOR-GENERAL in COUNCIL.

*Dated 11th January 1817.*

Be it known to the chowdries, Kanoongoes and zemindars of the province of Bundelcund ; that Whereas in the year 1806, corresponding with the year 1863 Sumbut, Koour Sonee Sah, having professed his obedience and submission and having ceded to the British Government the towns of Chutterpore, Mow, and Salut, with their depending villages, was vested by the British Government with a hereditary grant of the remaining lands then in his actual possession ; and Whereas, in the year 1808, the British Government was pleased to restore the town of Mow to Koour Sonee Sah and to settle the town of Chutterpore upon his eldest son Koour Pertab Sing ; and Whereas in consequence of the demise of Koour Sonee Sah (which happened on the 4th May 1816, corresponding with the 20th Bysaek, Sumbut 1873), and the unequal and inconvenient disposition which the Koour before his death made of his lands, rendering all his sons independent of each other, it has become necessary for the British Government to interpose the power which its feudal supremacy legally vests in it, in order to prevent the public inconvenience that was likely to result from that unequal disposition ; and Whereas the British Government by virtue of that power and in view to the public security and tranquillity, has been pleased to recognise Koour Pertab Sing as successor to his father Koour Sonee Sah, and to confirm him in possession of his father's jaghire, on condition of his making a suitable provision for his younger brothers and their families ; and Whereas Koour Pertab Singh has entered into and has this day presented an Ikrarnama or obligation of allegiance to the British Government, comprising ten Articles, by which he binds himself among other stipulations to leave to his younger brothers the unmolested possession during their lifetime of the lands which are hereafter particularised in this Sunnud : Wherefore, and under the consideration and principles above set forth, the villages and lands specified in the subjoined schedule, with the reservation of the life-tenure to his younger brothers, which is also particularised in the said schedule, are hereby granted to Koour Pertab Sing and to his heirs in perpetuity rent-free by the British Government ; and so long as the said Koour Pertab Sing and his heirs shall conduct themselves in obedience and submission to the British Government, and shall

strictly adhere to all the terms and conditions of their engagements they shall not be molested nor disturbed in the possession of their lands and villages aforesaid.

It is your duty therefore to acknowledge and obey Koour Pertab Sing as the jaghiredar of the aforesaid villages, and to consider yourselves as accountable to him for all rights and immunities appertaining thereto. It is on the other hand incumbent on the said Koour Pertab Sing to conciliate and render, grateful the peasantry and inhabitants by his good government, to devote his endeavours to increase the population and to enhance the prosperity of his jaghire, and to employ its flourishing resources in the service of the British Government.

Ratified by the Governor-General in Council on 18th January 1817.

---



# INDEX TO BUNDELKHAND VOLUME.

Explanations—*h*=hill; *l*=lake; *r*=river; *v*=village; *t*=town.

## A.

Abheibnpati 13  
Abul Fazl 20, 21, 24  
Ahar (*v*) 72  
Ajaigarh State 215-272; situation and area 245; name 215; boundaries 245; natural divisions 215; hills and rivers 246; geology 216; botany 247; fauna 217; climate and rainfall 217; history 217-249; genealogical tree and coat of arms before p. 245; archaeology 249; population 250; enumerations 250; towns and villages 250; religions 250; language and literacy 250; castes and occupations 250; social characteristics 250; public health 250; agriculture 251-254; soils 251; crops 252-253; irrigation 254; cattle 254; wages and prices 254; forests 254; mines and minerals 255; diamonds 255; arts and manufactures 256; commerce and trade 256; means of communication 256; roads 257; ferries 257; post and telegraph 257; mining 257; administration 258; Chief and diwān 258; law and justice 258; courts 258; finance 259; land revenue 259; miscellaneous revenue 260; excise 260; opium 260; drugs and liquor 260; public works 261; army, police and jails 261; education and medical 261; administrative divisions and gazetteer 262-269; canal 271; map after p. 377.  
Ajaigarh Town 263

Aktohān (*v*) 196  
Aktohān tahāt 191  
Al-Birūni b (see other States)  
Ali Bahādur, Nawab of Bāndā 175, 176, 312  
Aman Singh 173  
Amargarh (*v*) 150  
Amgaon (*v*) 150  
Amghāt (*v*) 265  
Amrokha (*v*) 151  
Anitudi of Panna 174  
Anna Salib Gore 209, 315  
Arjun Dev 16  
Arjun Pal 14  
Asāti (*v*) 72  
Asānn (*v*) 72  
Aurangzeb 96, 97, 98, 169, 170, 171

B.

Babai (*v*) 151  
Bachhān (*v*) 266  
Bāgman (*v*) 360  
Bājī Rao Peshwā 172, 275  
Bakht Singh 248  
Baldeogarh (*v*) 72  
Baldeogarh tahāt 66  
Ballie, Captain 103  
Bamauri (*v*) 73  
Barīgaon (*v*) of Chhatarpur 360  
Barīgaon (*v*) of Orchha 73  
Baraichhī (*v*) 196  
Baramju (*ride* Unao) 129  
Barana (*v*) 73  
Baroni (*v*) 126  
Barota Pahār 2  
Barwāra (*v*) 266  
Bāsāri (*v*) 360  
Barboi (*v*) 151  
Battle of Patua 171, of Daxār 174, 175

Baxwāho (v) 196  
 Bāwan-Chanrāsi *pargana* 231  
 Betwā (r) 2, 69, 135  
 Bhagwān Rao 95  
 Bhagwant Singh 32  
 Bhaira (v) 360  
 Bhān Pratāp Singh 277  
 Bhars 9  
 Bhārti Chand I, 17  
 Bhārti Chand II, 35  
 Bhawāni Singh 104  
 Bhelsi (v) 73  
 Bijai Bahādur of Datū 104  
 Bijai Bahādur (*see* Bijai Bikramājīt 209)  
 Bijai Singh 249  
 Bijāwar State 273-308 ; situation and area 273; name 273; boundaries 273; natural divisions 273; hills and rivers 273; lakes 274; geology and botany 274; cyclones, etc., 275; history 275-277; genealogical tree and coat of arms before p. 273; titles of Chief 277; relatives to Chief 277; archaeology 278; population 278; enumerations 278; towns and villages 278; religions 278; language and literacy 278; castes and occupations 278; social characteristics 278; agriculture 280-287; soils 280; crops 283; irrigation 284; cattle 286; fairs 286; wages and prices 287; forest 288; mines and minerals 291; diamonds 291; arts and manufactures 292; commerce and trade 292; weights and measures 293; means of communication 294; roads 294; post and telegraph 294; famine 294; administration 296; Chief and *dīwān* 296; law and justice 297; courts 297; oaths 298; finance 298; land revenue 298; miscellaneous revenue 299; opium 299; liquor 299; stamps 300; public works 300; army, police and jails 300; education 301; medical 301; survey 301; administrative

divisions and gazetteer 302-306; *sanad* 307; map after p. 377.  
 Bijāwar *tahsīl* 302  
 Bijāwar Town 304  
 Bije Bikramājīt (Bijai Bahādur) 209  
 Bikrampur (r) 361  
 Bira (v) 267  
 Bir Sagar (v & l) 73  
 Bir Singh Dev of Bijāwar 275, of Orekhā 22, of Samithar 138  
 Birsinghpur *tahsīl* 194  
 Birsinghpur (Birsinghpur) (r) 197  
 Biya-kund 305  
 Budherāghāt (v) 151  
 Bundelas 10

## C.

Champat Rai 168  
 Chandaira (v) 73  
 Chandla (v) 238  
 Chandra Bhān Bar-Gūjar 136  
 Charkhāri State 207-249; situation 207; name 207; boundaries 207; natural divisions 207; hills, rivers and lakes 207; geology 207; botany 208; fauna 208; climate and rainfall 208 : history 208-211; genealogical tree and State coat of arms before p. 207; population 211-213; enumerations 211; variations and density 211; towns and villages 211; language and literacy 212; social characteristics 212; public health 213; agriculture 214-217; soils 214; crops 216; irrigation 216; cattle 217; wages and prices 218; forests 219; mines and minerals 220; arts and manufactures 220; commerce and trade 220; weights and measures 222; means of communication 223; roads 223; post and telegraph 224; famine 221; administration 225; Chief and minister 225; law and justice 226; courts 227; finance 227; land revenue 228; miscellaneous revenue 230; opium and drugs

- 230 ; liquor 230; customs 230; public works 231; army 231; police and jails 231; education 232; medical 232; surveys 233; administrative divisions and gazetteer 234-240; *sanads* 241-243; map after p. 377.  
 Charkhārī Town 238  
 Chaurāgarh Fort 26, 27, 28  
 Chester, Mr. 249  
 Chhapār (v) 151  
 Chhatarpur *pargana* 356  
 Chhatarpur State 309-377; situation and area 309; name 309; boundaries 309; natural divisions 309; hills and rivers 309; lakes 310; geology 310; botany 311; fauna 311; climate and rainfall 311; history 311-318; genealogical tree and State coat of arms before p. 309; relations and *sardārs* 318; archaeology 318; population 319; enumerations 319; variations and density 319; towns and villages 319; migration 319; sex and civil condition 319; religions 319; language and literacy 319; castes and occupations 319; social characteristics 320; public health 320; agriculture 321-330; soils 321; crops 324; irrigation 328; wages and prices 330; forests 331; mines and minerals 336; arts and manufactures 336; commerce and trade 336; weights and measures 339; means of communication 341; railways 341; roads 341; ferries 342; post and telegraph 342; famine 342; administration 344; Chief and minister and their powers 344; law and justice 345; courts 345-346; finance 346; land revenue 347; miscellaneous revenue 351; opium, liquor and stamps 351; public works 351; army 352; police and jails 352; criminal tribes 353; education 353; medical 354; surveys 355; administrative divisions and gazetteer 356-374; *sanad* 375-377; map after p. 377.  
 Chhatarpur Town 361  
 Chhatarsūl of Pannā 170  
 Chhatar Singh 138  
 Chitrakūt 173, 312
- D.
- Dalpat Rao 97  
 Danghāi 17, 31, 32  
 Darguwan (v) 74  
 Datānī (r) 2  
 Datā State 93-133; situation and area 93; name 93; boundaries 93; natural divisions 93; hills, rivers and lakes 93; geology 94; botany 94; fauna 94; climate 94; rainfall 94; history 94-106; genealogical tree and the State coat of arms before p. 93; archaeology 106; population 106; enumerations, density and variation 106; towns and villages 106; migration 106; sex and civil condition 106; religions 106; language and literacy 106; castes and occupations 107; social characteristics 107; public health 109; agriculture 110; soils 110; seasons 110; area cultivated 110; agricultural practice 110; sowings 110; double cropping 110; rotation 111; mixed sowings 111; manure 111; pests 111; implements 111; crops 111; irrigation 112; cattle 112; cattle fairs 112; wages and prices 113; forests 113-115; mines and minerals 115; arts and manufactures 115; commerce and trade 115; weights and measures 116; means of communication 116-117; railways 116; roads 116; conveyance 116; post and telegraph 116; ferries 117; famine 117; administration 118; powers of Chief and *dīwān* 118; law and justice 118; courts and powers 119; finance 119; land revenue 120; excise and opium 120; public works 121; army 121; *Gusains* 121; police

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| and jails 122 ; education 122 ; medical 122 ; administrative divisions and gazetteer 128-130 ; treaty 131-138 ; map after p. 161. | Gulganj <i>tahsil</i> 302<br>Gumān Singh 248<br>Gurha (v) 964<br>Gūrjars or Gūjars 158-161, name 158 ; history 158-159 ; Bar-Gūjar 160 ; population 161 |
| Datiā <i>tahsil</i> and Baroni 123  |   |
| Datiā Town 127  |   |
| Dayārām 136   |   |
| Debipur (v) 151   | H.  |
| Delhi Assemblage 105, 177, 210, 249   | Haman (v) 365<br>Hamīr Singh 36<br>Harbans Rai 176<br>Hāte Singh 35<br>Hem Karan 11<br>Himmat Bahādur 175, 176, 202, 276                                |
| Deogaon (v) 267   | Hindūpat of Pannā 173, of Samthar 137   |
| Deora (v) 363   | Hirde Shah of Pannā 173   |
| Deora <i>pargana</i> 357  | Huien Tsiang 5, 6   |
| Deri (v) 74   | I.  |
| Deri Singh of Samthar 101, 137  | Indargarh (v) 128<br>Indargarh <i>tahsil</i> 124  |
| Devī Singh of Chanderī and Orchha 27-29   | Indrajit 100<br>Indramani 32<br>Ira (v) 151   |
| Dhamis or Prānnāthīs 199  | Irrigation, Mr. J. E. Goudge's note on 284  |
| Dhamoni (v) 27  | Isānagar (v) 240<br>Isānagar <i>pargana</i> 285   |
| Dharampāl 35  | Itwa (v) 185  |
| Dharampur (v) 197   | J.  |
| Dharampur <i>tahsil</i> 195   | Jādavendra Singh 177  |
| Dhasān (v) 2, 164, 207, 273   | Jagat Rāj 314   |
| Dhawāri (v) 74  | Jahāngīr (Salīm) 20, 21, 22, 23   |
| Dherī (see Mahārājganj) 151   | Jai Singh Dev 210   |
| Dhokal Singh 176  | Jaitpur 173   |
| Diamond mines of Ajnigarh 255, of Bijāwar 291, of Charkhāri 220, of Pannā 185-186   | Jatāra (v) 74   |
| Digaurn (v) 74  | Jatāra <i>tahsil</i> 67   |
| Doni (v) 964  | Jhina (v) 267   |
| E.  | Jhujhār Singh 21  |
| Erskine, Mr. 176  | Jhumār (v) 365  |
| F.  | K.  |
| Founding of Datiā State 95  | Kabirāj 26, 27  |
| G.  | Kakredi (v) 197   |
| Gadhūka (v) 151   | Kālanjar (Kālinjar) 5, 9  |
| Gaharwārs 10  | Kannar Shah 13  |
| Ganj (v) 267  | Karaiya (v) 305   |
| Garhi-kundār 16, 18   | Karaiya <i>tahsil</i> 303   |
| Gatheora (v) or Gathauri 364  | Karaupāl 13   |
| Ghogri (v) 197  |   |
| Gordan, Captain 36  |   |
| Goudge, Mr., J.E., I.C.S., Settlement Officer in Bundelkhand, note on irrigation by 284   |   |
| Govind Singh 106  |   |
| Guara (v) 197   |   |
| Gulganj (v) 305   |   |

Kari (v) (Bari Kari) 78  
 Ken (v) 161, 207, 246, 300  
 Kesri Singh 276  
 Khajrāho (v) 365  
 Khangars 14, 15  
 Khan Jahan Lodī 23, 26  
 Khargāpur (v) 78  
 Khatikni (v) 368  
 Khimp (v) 368  
 Khetra (v) 268  
 Khumān Singh 209  
 Kishangarh (v) 368  
 Kedār (v) 78  
 Kurraha (v) 369  
 Kuwāra (v) 369  
 Kuitār (v) 268

**L.**

Lachhman Singh 277  
 Lamī (v) 369  
 Lānt or Lāndī paryāti 358  
 Lālhanra (v) 79  
 Lohāgarh (v) 151  
 Lokpal Singh 177

**M.**

Mālan Singh 101, 137  
 Mālho Singh of Ajigarh 249  
 Mālho Singh of Panna 177  
 Mālikar Shāh 18  
 Mahābu Khān 25, 94  
 Mahārājganj or Dhāri of Samthar 151  
 Mahātājpur (v) of Orekhā 79

Mahārājganj (v) of Chhatarpur 370  
 Mahārājī (v) 2  
 Mahāra (v) of Ajigarh 268  
 Mahāra (v) of Charkhāt 210  
 Mahēwa (v) of Orekhā 79  
 Mahipat Singh 219  
 Mahendra (v) 197  
 Mahodra rājāt 195  
 Maitland, Captain, F. H. 211  
 Maṇja (v) 80  
 Malahār (v) of Chhatarpur 370  
 Malahār (v) of Panna 197  
 Malahār rājāt of Panna 195  
 Malkhān Singh of Charkhāt 211

Malkhān Singh of Orekhā 16  
 Mamāna (v) 80  
 Man Singh 35  
 Manyāgarh (h) 371  
 Marhia (v) 80  
 Marhpura (v) 152  
 Martindell, Colonel 263  
 Mauhanpati 13  
 Mau (v) 371  
 Mau Māheva 17  
 Mawai (v) 80  
 Mayne, Major, A. 36  
 Medlicott, Mr., H. B. 274  
 Modital 16  
 Meelbeek, Colonel 175, 176  
 Mirka (v) 372  
 Mohangāl (v) 80  
 Mundet or Munreti (v) 372

**N.**

Nādanwāra (v) 80  
 Nadigaon (v) 128  
 Nadigaon rājāt 125  
 Naiagnon (v) 197  
 Naināgīt (v) 198  
 Naunak Dev I, 18  
 Naunak Dev II, 16  
 Naune Shāh Gūjar 100, 101, 136  
 Nirpat Singh 176  
 Niātri (v) 80  
 Nūna (v) 81

**O.**

Official language of Ajigarh 258,  
 of Bijāwar 296, of Charkhāt 225,  
 of Chhatarpur 314, of  
 Patiā 118, of Orekhā 57, of  
 Panna 189.  
 Orekhā State 1-91; situation and  
 boundaries 1; area 1; name 1;  
 natural divisions, hills, rivers and  
 lakes 2; geology 3; botany 3;  
 fauna 3; climate and rainfall 4;  
 history 4-37; genealogical tree  
 and State coat of arms before p.  
 1; pre-Chandella and Chandella  
 period 4; Mauryas 5; Kalachuris  
 5; Guptas 5; Paribār Rajputs  
 5; Harshvardhan 5; rise of  
 Chandellas 6; Gaharwārs 10;

the Bundelā period 10-37; archaeology and architecture 37; population 37; enumerations 37; density and variations 37; towns and villages 37; religions 38; language and literacy, castes and occupations 38; social characteristics 38; public health 40; agriculture 41-46; soils 41; crops 44; irrigation 45; cattle 45; wages and prices 47; forests 48; mines and minerals 50; arts and manufactures 50; commerce and trade 51; weights and measures 52; means of communication 54; railways 54; roads 54; posts and telegraphs 54; famine 54; administration 56; the Chief and *dūcān* and their powers 56; law and justice 57; courts and their powers 58; finance 58; land revenue 59; miscellaneous revenue 60; excise 60; customs 60; liquors 60; opium 60; stamps 60; local and municipal 61; public works 61; army 61; irregulars 62; police and jails 63; education 63; medical 64; surveys 64; administrative divisions and gazetteer 65-86; treaty 87-89; chronological table of the Chandella rulers of Jajhoti 90-91; map after p. 90.

Orekhā *tahsil* 69

Orekhā Town 81

### P.

Pacher (v) 83

Pahārikhera (v) 269

Pahari-Maināñi (v) 373

Pahārpura (v) 152

Pahār Singh 81, 82

Palera (v) 83

Pannā State 163-205; situation 163; area 163; natural divisions 163; name 163; boundaries 163; hills 163; rivers and tanks 164; geology 164-167; botany 167; fauna 167; climate and rainfall 167; history 168-178; genealogical tree and State coat of arms

before p. 161; titles 178; connections 178; population 178; enumerations 178; towns and villages 178; sex and religions 178; language and literacy 178; castes and occupations 178; social characteristics 178; public health 179; agriculture 180-189; soils 180; crops 182; irrigation 182; cattle 183; wages and prices 183; forests 184; mines and minerals 185-187; diamonds 185-187; history 186; arts and manufactures 187; commerce and trade 187; means of communication 188; roads 188; posts and telegraphs 188; famine 188; administration 189; legislation and justice 190; courts 190; finance 190; land revenue 191; miscellaneous revenue 192; excise 192; liquor 192; public works 192; army 192; police and jails 193; education 193; medical 193; surveys 193; administrative divisions and gazetteer 194-201; canals 203-205; map after page 377.

Pannā *tahsil* 196

Pannā Town 198

Papauni (v) 83

Pararia tola (v) 269

Pārichhat 103

Paramārdi Dev 8

Parlāpganj (v) 83

Pātan (v) 805

Pathāram (v) 84

Pawai (v) 200

Pawai *tahsil* 196

Piparia (v) 305

Pirthipur (v) 84

Pratap Singh of Chhatarpur 313, of Orekhā 36

Prithi Raj 16

Prithvi Singh 31

Pur (v) 373

### Q.

Nil

### R.

Ragoli (v) 305



Tattam (v) 374	Unno or Baramju (v) 129
Teharka (v) 84	Uidmau (v) 374
Tej Singh 35	V.
Thauna (v) 85	Vikramajit 35
Thompson, Colonel, E. 210, 226, 314	Virabhadra 13
Tighara (v) 201	Visvanath Singh 315
Tikamgarh (t) 85	W.
Tikamgarh <i>tahsil</i> 65	Nil
Titles of Ajaigarh Chief 249, of Bijawar Chief 277, of Charkhari Chief 211, of Chhatarpur Chief 317, of Datia Chief 106, of Orchha Chief 37, of Pannu Chief 178, of Sambar Chief 188.	X.
U.	Nil
Udot Singh 33	Y.
	Yashwant Singh 32
	Z.





## B—contd.

**Bārā.**—[H. *bārā* from Skt. *bar*=to enclose.] Technical term for manured land or garden land close to a dwelling and fenced off; a homestead.

**Bardī.**—[H. *barad*=pebbles.] Stony soil.

**Bārgir.**—[P. *gir*=load bearer.] A substitute who acts for a **Sillādār** (q.v.) sower. In Native States when a **Sillādār** is too old to work, he continues in many cases, to hold his post through a **bārgir** whom he pays and equips (see Blochmann, *Ab-i-Akkāri*, I, 39.)

**Batāi.**—[H. from Skt. *bat*=to divide.] Sharing a produce between landowner and cultivator; a produce rent.

**Batotri.**—*See* Batāi.

**Beda**—[H. from Skt. *beda*=surrounding.] A body of irregular troops used as police.

**Begam.**—[Turki] Female title corresponding to Beg. The concubines of Nawâbs are styled Begams.

**Begār**—[P. *be*=without and *gār*=*gar*, work.] Imprisonment, service, or forced labour without pay. In Marâthâ States is the ordinary term for the work done by village servants (especially the *balai* or messenger).

**Bhag.**—[H.] Division of crops between cultivator and landlord.

**Bhatari.**—[H. *bhatār*=metal.] A hard rocky soil.

**Bhet**—[H. *bi*=meeting.] Technical term for cereals levied on land revenue devoted to paying *pâtrikâs* and other village officials. Originally it was a gift presented by an inferior to a superior when the latter visited his village.

**Bhikshuka.**—[Skt. *bhikshu*=alms.] A religious mendicant.

**Bhoja**—{ [H.=a load.] Technical term for a weight of 24 **Dharis** (q.v.) or 120 seers (24 lb.) ; it is used largely in the opium and cotton trade.

**Bigha.**—[H. from Skt. *vigha*.] A land measure very variable in different parts of Central India. On an average—½ acre (See Blochmann, *Ab-i-Akkâri*, II, 61-62).

**Bir**—[H. *bēra*=an enclosure.] Technical term for a grass reserve.

**Biyai.**—[H. from *biy*=one appointed to weigh grain.] A weighing tax usually paid at *vakheri*.

**Budki.**—[H.] Nerbîdi dialect word for an *erli* or wall in a nullah.

## C

**Caste.**—[Portuguese *câscia*, a race.] The gradations of Hindu social rank.

**Chabutra.**—[H. from Skt. *châtra*=a platform.] Technical term for a customs office (See *Nâka*).

**Chakrâna.**—[H. *châkra*=a servant.] Grants of revenue free land to servants and others in lieu of salary.

**Chanda.**—[P. lit. how much?] A subscription; a fund maintained by monthly deduction from a man's pay.

**Chapkan.**—[H. from *Tibli* or Mughal source] A long coat of cassock like shape fastened by Hinkas on the right and Muhamradans on the left of the chest with strings.

**Charnoi.**—{ [H. *charra*=graze.] Village common grazing lands as distinct from *Charokhar*.

**Chankidâr.**—{ [H. for *chauki*, a place where four roads meet.] A village watchman or irregular policeman; one in charge of a *chauki* or outpost.



## D—contd.

**Dharamshala**.—[H. A pious edifice.] A rest house for way-farers, generally built by rich men as an act of charity or piety.

**Diwâli**.—[H. from Skt. *dipu-âlîka*, a row of lamps.] The autumn festival held on the last two days of the dark half (*Badi*) of *Aśvin* (September-October) and the new moon of *Kârtik* (October-November). It lasts from the 13th or *dhan-trayodashî* ("13th of wealth") or the 11th called *Narak-chaturdashi* ("14th of Narak"), in commemorating the slaying of the demon Narak by Vishnu, to the Yama-dîvâli the day of the new moon which is sacred to Yama, the God of the lower regions.

**Diwân**.—[P. *A.*—a register or account.] The minister of a State.

**Diwân**.—{ [Skt. *deeman* = god-like.] A title borne by Râjputs; especially Dimân.—} common in Eastern Central India, among Bundelkâhs.

**Doab**.—[P. *do* = two *âb* = water.] The land lying between any two rivers.

**Dofasli**.—[A. *fasl* = harvest from *fasl* = cutting.] Land bearing two (*do*) crops in the year.

**Dusai**.—[H.] Land sown twice. *San-dusai*, land sown first with *san* and then poppy; *urad-dusai* with *urad* and poppy, and so on.

## F

**Fadnis**.—[From P. *fard-navis*, a writer of statements.] A Marâthâ term for the finance minister or Accountant-General.

**Fasl**.—[A. *fasl* = cutting, a harvest.] The harvest *do-faslî* = land bearing two crops in one year.

**Faujdâr**.—[P.=commander of an army (*fauj*).] Used adjectively in *faujdâri adâlet*, a Criminal Court.

## G

**Gaddi**.—[H. A cushion.] The throne. A native Chief is said to "succeed to the *gaddi*."

**Gâmoth**.—[H. *gaman* = going.] The peripatetic village priest and astrologer who attends village ceremonies.

**Garh**.—{ [H.] A fort on a hill, as distinct from *ka'*, a fortified town or strong-hold on a plain. *Garhi*=a small fort.

**Gâri-adda**.—[H. from *gâri*=a cart and *adda*=a collection, or concourse.] A place where market carts assemble; usually in the centre of a town.

**Ghât**.—[H. from Skt. *ghath*=cut.] A cutting or pass in the hills; a landing stage on a river or tank, a bathing place with steps.

**Ghi**.—[H. from Skt. *ghritam*.] Clarified butter produced by boiling it.

**Girdâwar**.—[P. one who patrols.] A revenue inspector who supervises *fatwâris* and others.

**Godown**.—[Telugu *gudum* corrupted from *gidangi*.] A warehouse, e. g. opium godown where the Government scales are maintained.

**Grâssia**.—[H. *grâs*=a mouthful.] Originally *grâs* was a term applied to land given for charitable and religious objects. Later, it was applied to grants of land made to cadets of a ruling family. In the 18th and 19th century it was applied to the black-mail levied by marauding Râjputs who had been ousted from their possessions by the Marâthâs and others. These men were called *Girâssios* or *Grâssias* See Tod.—*Rajasthan I*, 175 (J. Malcolm-Memoir of Central India, I, 508. Forbes's *Ras-Mala I*, 186).

**Gumashtha**.—[P. one appointed, or set over.] An agent, overseer, or superintendant.

**Gur**.—[H. from Skt. *gur*=raw sugar.] Molasses.

## H

**Halbandi.**—[H. *hal*=a plough, *bandi*=estimate.] Assessment by the plough of land, about 25 bighas or 16 acres (See *Aud.*)

**Hāli.**—[A. *hāl*=present.] Lit. "what is current"; a general term for local State coinage, e. g., *Indor-hāli*, *Ujjain-hāli*.

**Hamāl.**—[A. one who carries.] Technical name for the man who kneads Mālvā opium.

**Hak.**—[A. right.] Perquisites paid to village officials such as to *patels*, *Haq.*—*balais*, &c.

**Harkāra.**—[P. from *har*=every, *kār*=work.] A messenger, especially *dāk* runner.

**Hāt.**—[H. from Skt. *hatta*.] A market held on a fixed day of the week.

**Hayildār.**—[P. *hayāladār*=holder of an office of trust.] A subordinate revenue officer who assists in collecting land revenue; in case where this is paid in kind he watches the crops until the State share is paid.

**Hijri.**—[A.=Separation.] Muhammadan era. The first year dates from the flight of Muhammad; the era commenced on 16th July 622 A. D.

**Holi.**—[Skt. *holītū*.] The great spring festival held at the vernal equinox during the ten days preceding the full moon of *Phālgūn* (Feb.-Mar.), it is only observed, as a rule, on the last 3 days, however.

**Huzūr.**—[A. the presence.] Used in reference to the Chief's own Office or Court, e. g., *Huzūr darbār*, *Huzūr ādālat*; *Huzūr tāheil*; the home district.

## I

**Id.**—[A.=that which recures.] A recurrent festival, especially the *Id-ul-fitr* or festival of breaking the fast held at the end of *Ramātān* on the new moon of *Shauāl*.

**Ijāra.**—[A. *ijra*=compensated.] A farm or lease of the revenues of a village or district. *Ijāradār*, farmer of the revenues.

**Ilāka.**—[A. lit. = relation or connection.] A district, tract or estate. One in possession is called an *ilākēdar*.

**Inām.**—[A. a gift from a superior.] Land grant free from revenue payment.

**Istimirāri.**—[A. lit. = continuing, from *mar* = to keep on, preserve.] Land held on a permanent lease for which a fixed quit-rent is paid.

## J

**Jāgir.**—{ [P. from *jāe*=place, *gir*=to hold.] An assignment of land held under various conditions, but usually requiring payment of a certain percentage of the revenues, or the performance of certain feudal services (See *Zābta*).

**Jamabandi.**—[A. *jamā*=land tax.] The "rent-roll." The assessed revenue demand of a district.

**Jamādār.**—[A. & P. from *jamā*=an aggregate.] One commanding a body of men in the army; an officer next in rank to a *silahdār* (captain); in civil employ; a headman among forest, customs etc., guards, peons, and the like.

**Janama-rāshi nām.**—[H. from Skt.] The name given to a man at his birth (*janama*) in accordance with the constellation (*rāshi*) of the zodiac under which he was born. It is used in ceremonials. His ordinary appellation is called the *boltā-nām*.

**Jaripatka.**—[P. and H. from P. *zarīn*=golden and H. *patka*=a flag.] The pennon or streamer attached to the grand-ensign of the Peshwā. The right to carry this pennon was conferred as a high honour on the Peshwā's generals.

## K

- Kabuliat.**—[A. *qibūl*=recognition.] The acknowledgment or acceptance of the terms of a lease or agreement given by cultivators.
- Kachahiri.**—[H. from Skt. *kuchchati*=civil, *kari*=removing.] A Court of Justice; any office.
- Kachcha.**—[H. raw, immature.] Opposite of **Pakka** (q. v.) and applied to all temporary structures etc. A mud house, unmetalled road or wooden bridge is *kachcha*.
- Kad-dhāp.**—[H. *kad*=extreme lines, *dhāp*=guessing.] A term applied to the rough survey methods employed by the Marāthās.
- Kaldār.**—[P.=milled.] The British rupee, etc., with milled edges.
- Kamāsdār.**—[M. cor. of *Kamāveddūr*=collector, from *kamāvīn*=to earn.] The official in charge of the revenue subdivision called a *Lāmādshī*, *pargana*, or *tahsil*.
- Kāmdār.**—[H. and P. *kām*=work, *dār*=doer.] An agent or manager of a small State or Estate, who assists a Thākūr in managing his land.
- Kan-kut.**—[H. *kan* and *kut* to appraise.] The method of appraising the value of a standing crop; an eye estimate of the revenue due on any field.
- Kānungo.**—[P. a speaker (go) of rules (*kānūn*).] A revenue official who supervises the *patwāris*.
- Kārbāri.**—{ [H.] The minister or manager of a State.  
**Karbhari.**—{ [H.] The minister or manager of a State.
- Kārkhānnā.**—[P. *kār*=work, *khāna*=house.] A workshop. More commonly used as the technical name for the department dealing with native chieft's, stable, carriages, commissariat, etc.
- Kasba.**—[A.] Technical expression for a native town adjoining a British Station e. g. *Kasba* Sehore as distinct from *Chāhāni* Sehore.
- Khād-bij.**—[H. lit. = food and seed.] Lown in cash and kind made to cultivators for their subsistence and the planting of their fields.
- Khāl.**—[H. = below.] A *Nāla* (q. v.) or water course, usually with steep banks.
- Khālsā.**—[P. from *bhālsā*=pure, genuine.] Lands administered by the Dārkār direct, and not given on farm, in *jāgir*, etc.
- Kham tahsil.**—[P. *kham* = immature.] A *tahsil* or district managed by the Dārkār directly (See *Khālsā*). Ordinarily applied, however, to undeveloped or immature tracts which no *hōredār* will take on farm.
- Khāsgī.**—[P. *khās*=particular, special.] Term applied to lands of which the revenues form the Chief's privy purse; also to the palace and entourage of a Chief. *Khāsgīcāla* = official in charge of the *khāsgī*.
- Kharif.**—[A. Autumn.] The autumn agricultural season (May to October).
- Khillat.**—[A. lit. = "what a man strips from his person?"] A dress of honour presented on a ceremonial occasion, or as a reward. The term is now applied to almost any ceremonial gift even to a cash payment. Its origin is shown by the derivation.
- Khotar.**—{ [H. *khot* = a farmer or renter of village.] Term applied—(a) a  
**Kothar.**—{ synonym of *Khālsā* (q. v.), (b) certain perquisites given to  
**Khoti.**—{ *patwāri* and others.
- Kila.**—{ [A. *kila*=a fort.] One in charge of a fort, a subordinate revenue  
**Kiledār.**—{ official.
- Kirsān.**—[H. from Skt. *kṛṣṇah* = one who ploughs.] An agriculturist or a cultivator as distinct from a *zamindār* or landholder.
- Kist.**—[A. a division.] An instalment of the revenue demand, payable on a fixed date.

## L

**Lambardār.**—[*lambār*=cor. of number.] One who assists in collecting the revenue; the headman of a village.

## M

**Mahate.**—[H. lit.=a great man.] One who farms a village; stands security for a cultivator (*see Tipdār*).

**Mahal.**—[A. from *mahl*=alighting from a journey.] A palace; subdivision of a *sarkār* under the Mughals; ward of a city. Plural is *muhāl*.

**Māletrū.**—[H.] Unirrigated land of the black-cotton-soil class.

**Mānkari.**—[H. from Skt. *mān*=respect.] One entitled to receive certain ceremonial honours in *darbār*; a noble of the State.

**Mānotidār.**—[H. from Skt. *mānit*=satisfaction.] One who stands security for the due payment of the land revenue by a cultivator (*See Tipdār*).

**Māntra.**—[Skt.] A mystic verse; spell or incantation.

**Mansab.**—[A.=office.] Term for rank and titles conferred by the Mughal Emperors. *Mansabdār* = a *mansab* holder. (*See, J. R. A. S.* 1896, 510).

**Mārāthā.**—[M.] The origin of the name is not certain. It may be either a contraction of *Mahā-rāshtra*, i. e., people from *Mahārāshtra* or the Deccan which seems most likely; or *Makā-rāshā* i. e., great chariot fighters; or from *mhār* the name of a race. (*See Bombay Gazetteers Vol. I. pt. ii-143*). The term *Marāthā* is used by the English to describe all who speak *Marāthī* dialects whether Brāhmans, Kshatriyas or Sūdras. Strictly speaking it applies only to the Kshatriya section of the *Marāthī* speaking community, e. g., the Poniwārs of Dhār and Dewās and Sindhlā are *Marāthās*, but Holkar, who is of Dhangar caste, is not.

**Mārwāri.**—[H.] One from *Mārwār* in Rājputāna. A generic term for the merchant class of Central India who are chiefly *Mārwāris*.

**Maulvi.**—[A. from *wila* = propinquity, referring to the document given to a manumitted slave; it thus came to mean patronage in letters, of learned men, etc.] A learned man, doctor of Muhammadan law. (*See Hobson Jobson under Moolah*).

**Mokāsa.**—[M. from A. *moguasa* = a place where dues are collected.] The technical term for the 75 per cent. of the revenues remaining after deduction of *Chauth* (q. v.). It was usually assigned to the Peshwā's vassals (*See Grant Duff, History of the Mahrattas*, I. 395).

**Mohatamim.**—{ [A. *muhtamim* from *muhtam* = solicitous, anxious.] An **Motamim.**—{ agent, representative, or a superintendent.

**Momin.**—[A. *mumin*=a believer.] A muhammadan weaver. (*See Sālvī*).

**Muāfi.**—[A. from *afu* = absolution.] A grant of land free from all obligations as to payment of tribute, service, etc.

**Muāmla.**—{ [A. from *amal*=action, effect, dominion.] A form of tenure similar to *jūyir*; the *muāmlādārs*, or holders of these estates **Muāmlādār.**—{ usually pay *Tānka* (q. v.) or tribute.

**Muharir.**—[A. from *har*=writing.] A writer or clerk.

**Mukhtār.**—[A. lit.=chosen.] An agent; a customs-house official.

**Munshi.**—[A. from *inskār*=to educate, a secretary.] Any educated Muhammadan; a title of clerks, Muhammadan and Kāyasth, who usually know Urdu and Persian (*See Pandit*).

**Munsif.**—[A. *nisf*=half, *īnsāf*=justice.] A Judge in a Civil Court.

**Mustājir.**—[A.] The holder of an *Ijāra* (q. v.) or farm of the revenues.

## N

**Naib.**—[H. = a deputy.] Used in expressions such as *mash-tahsildār*, deputy *tahsildār*, etc.

**Naik.**—[H. from Skt. *nayaka* = a leader.] Headman of certain Bhil tribes; a petty official, civil or military (corporal).

**Nāka.**—[H. A point where two or more roads meet.] A customs, police or other post.

**Nakshatra.**—[Skt.] An asterism in the moon's path. All agricultural operations are regulated by the *Nakshatras* of which there are 27 in a year. (See Indore State Gazetteer Appendix B.)

**Nāla.**—[H.] A water course; not necessarily dry. (See **Khāl**.)

**Nambardār.**—*See* **Lambardār**.

**Nazarāna.**—[A. *naer* = a votive offering.] Technical term for the succession dues paid to a suzerain Darbār, or to the British Government. Originally a gift from an inferior to a superior.

**Nāzim.**— { [A. One who arranges or organises] The official in charge of a **Nizāmat**.— } *nizāmat*, a revenue unit corresponding to a Division.

## O

**Orhi.**—[H. *orha* = a brook, or channel.] A well situated on the edge of a brook, water course or tank which is fed by a channel leading from the water supply to the bottom of the *orhi*.

## P

**Padārakh.**—[H. from Skt. *padārghya* = offering to a Brahman.] A religious bequest of cash or land.

**Pāga.**—[M. lit. = A body of horse under one commander.] The cavalry body-guard of a Marāthā Chief; regiments specially connected with the safeguard of a Chief. *Pājnis*, commander of a *pāga*.

**Pagras.**—[M. from H. *papharna* = to extend.] *Pagras* tenure is a tenure commenced on easy terms to induce cultivators to break new soil and extend cultivation. The rates are slowly raised.

**Pagri.**—[H.] A made up head-dress (See **Sāsa**.)

**Pakka.**—[H. ripe.] Applied to anything of a permanent nature, as a stone or brick house, metalled road, or iron bridge, etc. (See **Kachcha**.)

**Pakki-Chithi.**—[H. lit. mature or countersigned note.] A cheque issued in the name of the higher controlling authority authorising payment from a State treasury.

**Panchāyat.**—[H. a council of five (*pānch*) elders.] A council of the chief men of a village or caste community; any similar council or committee.

**Pandit.**—[H. from Skt. — a learned man.] A Sanskrit Scholar; title of address for Brahmins.

**Pardānashin.**—[P. lit. = seated behind a curtain.] Secluded; the ordinary term for women who are secluded in a *tarāna* or harem.

**Pargana.**—[H. from Skt. *pargati* = to reckon up.] A revenue and fiscal unit corresponding to a British *tahsil*; the sub division of a *sūbhāk*.

**Parsai.**—[H. *pārsā* = pure] A celibate, a holy man. The common term for a village priest and astrologer. (See **Gāmōthi**.)

**Parwāna.**—[P. an order.] A permit or pass.

**Patol.**—[H. from Skt. *pattākila*, by metathesis for *pattālikā*, i.e., one in charge of a *pattala* or canton. *See* J.A.O.S. vii-24, II.] The headman of a village, often an hereditary official. (See Colebrooke's "Essays," ii, 303.)

## P—contd.

**Patta.**—[H. from Skt. *patta* = a roll, a list.] The idea of a roll or list of cultivation gradually gave place to that of a tax or cess, and a portion of a village. Thence *pattidār*, a holder of such portion for the revenues of which he was responsible. Thence *patta* came to mean a lease. *Patti* often means a tax or cess, e.g., *madrasā-pitti*, school tax, etc.

**Patwāri.**—[H. from Skt. *pātra-wṛtin* = a doer of writing.] The village register and accounts keeper, subordinate to the *Kānungo* (q. v.).

**Payākāshṭ.**—[H. P. *pāya* = a foot, *kāshṭ* = cultivation]. Term for land belonging to a deserted village of which the cultivating rights are leased to a neighbouring village.

**Peshwai.**—[P. lit. = office of peshwa] Technical term for ceremonial reception of Chiefs etc.

**Phadnis.**—[M. from P. *fard-navis* = a writer of statements.] Marāthī title for the finance-minister, chief accountant or auditor, hereditary post in Marāthā States. (Same as *Fadnis*, q. v.).

**Pindāri.**—[H.] The etymology of this word is uncertain. Malcolm (Central India, i-433) derives it from *pendhā* an intoxicating drink affected by the *Pindāris*, which was made by fermenting jowār. This supports the spelling *pindhārī*. Wilson derives from *pendhā*, a bundle of straw, i. e., a forager or camp follower. Yule and Bannett derive from *pindū-pirna* meaning to follow close by, or *pindū-bnene* to stick, close to. Irvine (Indian Antiquary-1900) suggests *pandhār* the old name for the tract lying along the Narbadā near Hindia and Nemīwar.

**Piyat.**—[H. from Skt. *pīta* = anything drunk.] Irrigated land (See *Piat*.—{*Abpāshi*})

**Potdār.**—[A. P. cor. of *fauta-dār* from *fauta* = striped cloth used to make money bags]. A treasurer's assistant, who counts out cash etc. (See Blochmann, *Ain-i-Akkari* ii, 49).

**Prānt.**—[Skt.] A revenue unit equivalent to a Division in British India. It contains several *Sūbahs* (q. v.) and is sometimes in charge of a *Sar-sūbah*.

## R

**Rāhdāri.**—[P. *rāhi* = road.] Transit duty on all merchandise accruing a State or passing from one district to another.

**Rabi.**—[A. spring.] The spring crop season, October to March.

**Rais.**—[H.] A noble, big landholder of position.

**Rājput.**—[H. from Skt. *rāja-putra* = king's son.] The fighting class among Hindus, applied particularly to certain well known classes such as the Rāthors, Kachhwāhās, Sisodias etc. (See *Marāthās*).

**Rākhad.**—[H. *rākh* = ashes, village sweepings.] Land close to a village  
**Rākhar.**—} [H. *rākh* = manured with village refuse.]

**Rasum**—[A. *rasm* = what is customary.] Dues; court fees, etc.

**Ryotwāri.**—[P. *rajan-tācāt* = dealing with the subject.] A *ryotwāri* settlement is made with individual cultivators direct, and not through middlemen. (See *Ijjāra*).

## S

**Sādhū.**—[Skt. = pious.] A holy man; religious mendicant.

**Sadr.**—[A.—chief.] Used in *sadr-adilat* = Chief Court; *sadr-mahal* = Native Chief's residence, etc.

**Sāfa.**—[A.] A loose cloth twisted round the head (see *Pagri*).

**Sāgar.**—[H. from Skt. *sāgara* = a sea.] Used of large lakes e. g., Jagat Sāgar,

## S—contd.

**Sāhukār**.—[H. from Skt. *sādhukār*=right-doer.] Native banker and money-lender.

**Sālwi**.—[H.] A Hindu weaver. (*See Momin*).

**Samvat**.—[Skt.=a year, or era.] Contraction for *Vikrama Samvat*, the era in general use in Central India. Its initial year corresponds to B. C. 57.

**Sanad**.—[A. a diploma.] A grant, patent or deed confirming specific titles or rights. Most Chiefs in Bundelkhand hold on a *sanad*.

**Sanchūr**.—[Mālwī *san*=hemp, *chūr*=powder, fine pieces] Green manure made by sowing hemp and ploughing it into the soil when in flower. *Urad* is similarly used and called *Uradchūr*.

**Sarai**.—[P. A palace.] Stage-house for accommodation of travellers.

**Saranjāmi**.—[M. from P. lit.=beginning and ending.] Technical Marāthā expression for fiefs granted on a service tenure, the holder being obliged to support his suzerain with a body of troops. (*See Zābta*).

**Sardār**.—[P. *sar*=head.] A noble, leader, officer in the army, person of rank.

**Sardeshmukhi**.—[H. *sar*-deshmukh=The headman of a province.] Literally a tax levied by the *sardeshmukh*. In practice it was an assignment of 10 per cent of the assessed revenues of a district after *chauth* or 25 per cent. had been deducted (*See Chauth and Mokūsa*). The claim was always ill-defined (*See Grant-Duff-History of the Mahrattas*, I, 385.)

**Sarkār**—[P. lit. = head workman.] A sub-division of a Sūbah (q. v.) under the Mughals. It still exists in certain tracts e. g. Sarkār Bijāgarh in Indore State.

**Sarishta**.—[H.] Officer of the Court.

**Sati**.—[H. from Skt. lit.=a pure woman, true wife.] Europeans apply this word to the act of immolation, but strictly it applies only to the person.

**Satta**.—[H. from Skt. *shattra*=a bargain.] Game bargaining, a form of gambling much in vogue in opium and cotton dealings.

**Sawai Jama**.—{ [P.=what is collected (*jama*) besides (*riwai*).] Miscellaneous revenue not connected with the land.

**Sawain**.—[H. *sawa*-*ī*.] Technical name for the system followed in making loans in kind in which  $1\frac{1}{4}$  (i. e. interest at 25 per cent.) is taken on settling day.

**Sayar**.—[H. from A. *sū'ir*.] Customs dues. The origin of this term is curious and interesting being due to a confusion between two Arabic words *sū'ir* = what is current, and *sā'i'r*=remainder (*See Hobson-Jobson sub-voc.*)

**Shāgird pesha**.—[P. *shāgird*=pupil.] Dependents' quarters at a palace etc. General term for a Chief's establishment.

**Shia**.—[A. *shia'*=in sect.] Followers of the Mu'alimān sect which considers Ali, the son-in-law of Muhammad, as the rightful successor of the prophet. The Shāh of Persia is the head of this sect (*See Sunni*).

**Sibandi**.—[P. *īth*=3, *bandi*=bound, engaged.] Apparently designated originally men paid quarterly. General expression for men who are not *Sillādar* (q. v.)

**Sillādar**.—[A. P. *shillah-dār*=bearer of arms.] Native trooper, (*sowar*), who provides his own horse and sometimes, arms as well (*See Sibandi*).

**Siyāri, Siāri**.—[H. *sir*=cold.] The cold season.

## S—contd.

**Sūbah**.—[A.] Originally the word meant a province *e. g.*, the *sūbah* of Mālwā, in Mughal days. The officer in charge was at first called the *Sipah sālār* or commander of the forces; as the land became settled he was designated *sahib-i-sūbah*, and *sūbahdār*. This ultimately contracted in every day use to *sūbah*. Native State districts are often called *sūbahs*, the official in charge being similarly termed. A *zār sūbah* or head *sūbah* often holds charge of a Prānt (*q. v.*) containing several *sūbahs*. (See Blochmann, *Ain-i-Akbari* I, 245.)

**Sukdi**.—[H. *sukhdī*=an easement]. Perquisites such as a share of the village grain etc. given to village servants.

**Sunni**.—[A. The people of the faith.] The prevailing sect of Musalmāns in India whose members acknowledge the first four *khatīfs*. The Sultān of Turkey is head of this sect. (See *Shia*).

## T

**Tahsil**.—[A. =collection.] The revenue units, which compose a *Zila* (*q. v.*) are called *tahsils*, the officer in charge being *tahsildār*. (See *Pargana*.)

**Takkāvi**.—[A. from *kāri* = strength; a reinforcement.] Technical term for loans made to cultivators to enable them to cultivate, etc.

**Taluka**.—[A. from *al-Lik*=to depend.] A revenue division, district, dependency;

**Tānka**.—[P. *tānkhwāh*=pay]. Properly speaking an assignment of part of the revenues of a tract in favour of some magnate. Now applied to cash payments made either as tribute by feudatories or cash grants to feudatories by a superior Darbār. These *tānkas* in many cases originated as blackmail which was paid to restrain marauding Rājputs from devastating a State.

**Tappa**.—[H. lit.=a leap; distance or range.] A small tract, subdivision of a *Pargana*.

**Tauzi**.—[A.] A register; technical term for revenue collections.

**Tazim**.—[A. lit.=making great (*azam*), honouring.] The ceremonial reception of a feudatory, or *sardār* by his Chief. The gradations of such receptions are most minute and most strictly adhered to.

**Thākur**.—{ [Skt. *thakkura* = an idol, a god.] Term of respect applied to Rājput landholders of a lower status than that of ruling **Thakurāt**.—} { Thākurāt.—} Rājput landholders of a lower status than that of ruling chief. It means Lord or Master. The holding of a *Thāker* is called a *thākuri*.

**Thekādār**.—[H. *thekhī*=piece work.] A farmer of the revenue; A contractor.

**Thāna**.—[H. from Skt. *sthāna*=a station, place of standing.] Now applied to a police station; or revenue subdivision of a *Pargana* (*q. v.*). It originally meant a body of men forming an outpost, later on it was transferred to the outpost itself and to small border forts. (See Blochmann, *Ain-i-Akbari* I, 345, n).

A. *thānadar* is the official in charge.

**Tipdār**.—[H. *tip*=note of hand.] One who lends money to cultivators, or stands security for the due payment of his revenue.

## U

**Ubāridār**.—[H. lit. one receiving the balance *ulār* of the revenue.] A landholder who pays tribute; title of certain *Jāgirdārs*.

**Umrao**.—[P. *umra* pl. of *amīr*=a noble.] A hereditary noble or *sardār* of a State. In Jhāban State there are several families of *Umraos*.

**Unhārī**.—[H. form Skt. *unh*=heat and *āśi*=season.] The hot season.

## V

**Vahivātdār**.—[M. from Skt. *vāhav*=administration.] An official in Marāthā states subordinate to the **Kamāsdār** (q. v.) A petty civil judge.

**Vakīl**.—[A. = representative.] The official deputed by a Durbār to represent it at another Durbār or with the Political Agent etc. General term for a pleader in the Courts, who is not a Barrister-at-law.

**Varshāsan**.—[H. from Skt. *varshī*=a year.] Annuity paid to Brāhmans or for religious objects.

**Vatandār**.—[P. *vatan*=native land.] One who holds ancestral lands or hereditary property. *Patels* are often so designated.

**Vazīr**.—[A.] Minister of a (Muhammadan) State.

## Y

**Yunāni**.—[lit.=Greek]. The Musalman school of medicine derived from the Greeks (See **Ayurvedic**).

## Z

**Zābta**.—[A. *zalt*=that which is regulated.] Technical term for the quota of horse and foot which feudatories were required to bring into the field. (See **Jāgīr**, **Saranjāmi**.)

**Zamindār**.—[P. *zamin* = land.] A landholder or landlord, cultivating himself or employing others.

**Zila**.—[A. a rib.] A revenue unit corresponding to the District in British India. It is sub-divided into **Tahsils** or **Parganas**.

